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NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

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Japan

Government Deplores Iraqi Failure To Withdraw

OW1601072591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0716 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 16 KYODO—Japan on Wednesday deplored Iraq's failure to comply with a United Nations resolution to withdraw its troops from Kuwait by 5 A.M. GMT Wednesday (2 P.M. Japan time).

"Japan deeply deplores that the deadline has come as Iraq continues to ignore U.N. Security Council resolutions without complying with the demand to completely withdraw from Kuwait," a Foreign Ministry statement said.

Supports French Peace Proposal

OW1601101591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1000 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 16 KYODO—Japan shares France's view that an international conference on peace in the Middle East should follow on heels of a withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait, a Foreign Ministry official said Wednesday.

"Our position is very similar to that of France," said Press Secretary Taizo Watanabe in a meeting with foreign correspondents just after the expiry of the United Nations Security Council deadline for Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait.

"We support the idea of an international conference on the Middle East... but to link that conference idea with the Gulf crisis is something we oppose," Watanabe said.

Watanabe was being questioned on Japan's position on a last-minute French peace initiative which failed to pass the U.N. Security Council after opposition from the United States and Britain.

Iraq had hinted that it might be willing to consider the French proposal if it indeed linked the present crisis with the idea of an international conference.

"The French are saying that linkage is not intended, that the idea of holding a separate international conference should be pursued after the Gulf crisis is over," Watanabe explained. "We support the idea."

Asked if he saw no contradiction between that stance and remarks made by Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama in his talks with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker on Tuesday, Watanabe replied, "what Mr. Nakayama said was that when and if war breaks out... Japan would support the U.S. position."

A senior Foreign Ministry source added that it would not be productive for Japan to publicly take issue with the U.S. objection to the French plan.

"Unless the U.S. accepts the French plan, (a Japanese expression of support) would not serve for peace, but would only serve for disunity in the international coalition," he said.

The French initiative proposed the holding of an international conference promptly after an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait to tackle the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian issue.

It proposed sending an international team to monitor the withdrawal and dispatching a peacekeeping force drawn from Arab countries. It also said Iraq should be guaranteed that force will not be used against it.

Meanwhile, Watanabe said that Japan welcomes U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's latest appeal for an Iraq withdrawal, issued six hours before the U.N. Security Council deadline for the pullout ran out.

Perez de Cuellar said that he has the "highest assurance" from various governments that after a resolution to the Gulf crisis, "every effort will be made to address, in a comprehensive manner, the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the Palestinian question."

He also promised that Iraqi forces would not be attacked if they totally withdrew from Kuwait, U.N. observers or forces could be sent to certify the withdrawal, sanctions against Iraq could be reviewed, and foreign forces could be phased out of the region.

Watanabe called on Iraq "to seriously recognize the possible serious disaster for Iraq and the Middle East as a result of war and to respond to the serious efforts for peace by the international community."

Discusses Further Gulf Aid

OW1601055591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0532 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 16 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu appealed Wednesday for peace, but as the specter of war hung over the Persian Gulf region, government sources said Japan would not attach any conditions as to how additional aid to the multinational forces there could be spent.

Hours before the UN-sanctioned deadline for Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait, Kaifu told reporters he hoped Iraqi President Saddam Husayn would comply with a last-minute appeal by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to leave Kuwait.

The United Nations has sanctioned the use of force to expel Iraqi forces from Kuwait if the deadline is not met, but Kaifu said, "Every effort should be made until the very last" to avert a war in the region.

Meanwhile, Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto, told a news conference the government is studying ways of making further financial contributions to the multinational forces. He said the prime minister and senior government advisers would be meeting later in the day to consider the proposed new aid package, which Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama discussed during his talks with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in Washington on Monday.

Nakayama, who is scheduled to arrive in Tokyo Wednesday afternoon, is expected to join Kaifu in the meeting, Sakamoto said.

Although the nation's peace Constitution prohibits Japan from participating in collective defense actions, Sakamoto said government leaders will continue to meet to discuss Japan's contributions, including possible further aid to the multinational force, and its crisis management policies.

Government sources Wednesday held out the possibility that further aid to the U.S.-dominated forces arrayed against Iraq in the region would likely be free of restrictions concerning how it is spent.

An earlier pledge of 2 billion dollars was earmarked to help with the transport costs of the multinational force, with the exception of military goods and ammunition, but further aid if granted could be free of such conditions, the sources said. "If hostilities break out, we cannot say that transport costs should not include military goods or ammunition," said one government source.

The source added the government is debating whether to place conditions on the additional aid, such as prohibiting it from being used to purchase military goods or ammunition.

Leaders of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] met at the prime minister's residence Tuesday to discuss a revised government stance in support of the Persian Gulf force.

Mutsuki Kato, chairman of the LDP's Policy Affairs Research Council said, "The response of the Diet to date has not been clear," indicating the government will be considering a new position in the event of war.

Meanwhile, the Foreign Ministry announced that it has set up a Gulf crisis headquarters within the ministry to be headed by Foreign Minister Nakayama. The 15-20 member headquarters will function as the forum for gatherings of leading ministry officials as required, officials said. They said it will also serve as a center for the gathering and assessment of information and the coordination of internal and external contacts.

The headquarters will replace a previously formed Iraq-Kuwait Situation Headquarters, but a separate task force already established to consider Japan's overall response will remain intact as a separate entity.

Government 'Unable' To Send Medical Team to Gulf

OW1601114191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1132 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 16 KYODO—The Japanese Government is constitutionally unable to dispatch medical officers to Persian Gulf combat zones to treat wounded soldiers belonging to the U.N.- sanctioned multinational forces, a Foreign Ministry spokesman confirmed Wednesday.

Taizo Watanabe told foreign correspondents that the Japanese Government would likewise be unable to directly assist refugees in Gulf areas regarded as combat zones.

Watanabe made the remarks while explaining Japan's intention to donate more money for multinational forces in the event that war erupts and to send both money and personnel for refugee relief efforts.

On the prospect of government medical officers being sent to dangerous areas in the Gulf to treat soldiers, Watanabe said, "during the time of military combat, I just doubt it, no."

"After warfare is over, yes, then definitely there is more of a possibility that they will be able to do that," he added.

Private medical practitioners, meanwhile, have refused to subject themselves to "any danger of being involved in warfare" by going to combat ares of the Gulf, he said.

Watanabe quoted them as saying it would go against their consciences because they would interpret such an act as violating the spirit of Japan's peace constitution.

"There could be many volunteers who go to the combat zones after the warfare is over, when there are still so many casualties," he added.

On the question of dispatching government medical personnel to noncombat zones while the fighting continues, Watanabe said it would be conditional on ensuring that their activities "cannot be misconstrued" as violating the constitution.

Japan's argument that it is unconstitutional to send medical personnel into a combat area to render humanitarian assistance hinges on a constitutional provision in which Japan renounces "the threat or use of force as means of settling international disputes."

"It all depends on the interpretation of the law (as to whether) the presence and activities are part and parcel of military activities," Watanabe explained.

Tokyo Awaiting Gulf Support Details From U.S.

OW1601115791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1146 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 16 KYODO—Japan is still awaiting a detailed explanation from the United States of how much more Japanese financial cooperation is expected to support the efforts of multinational forces in the Persian Gulf, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Wednesday.

"We are not in a position to know the exact amount needed right now," said Taizo Watanabe in a meeting with foreign correspondents.

Watanabe said that while the subject has been discussed in a general manner in previous bilateral consultations, Washington has yet to give a "clear-cut estimate as to how much we are expected to bear."

The spokesman said Japan wants a "full explanation" of the basis for calculations as to what amount is requested and of the overall burden-sharing distribution among U.S. allies. Japan also wants to hear "from what viewpoint" the U.S. is requesting more funds, Watanabe said.

Watanabe said Japan fully supports the United States amid the Gulf crisis. "That position I hope would be fully appreciated by the American people," he said.

Kaifu Lays Peace Responsibility on Saddam Husayn

OW1601025091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0236 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 16 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu said on Wednesday it is up to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to decide whether there will be war in the Persian Gulf.

Asked by reporters to comment on the imminent UN deadline for Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait, Kaifu told reporters Wednesday morning, "I strongly hope there will be a decision by President Husayn."

Kaifu talked briefly to reporters as he headed from his living quarters to his office at the prime minister's official residence.

The UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has issued a last-minute appeal urging Husayn to pull out from Kuwait and it is Husayn's turn to respond, Kaifu said.

"Every effort should be made until the very last" to avert a war in the Persian Gulf, he said.

The United Nations has authorized the U.S.-led multinational forces in the Persian Gulf to evict Iraq from Kuwait if the Iraqis do not leave by midnight Tuesday New York Time, or 2 PM Wednesday Japan Time.

Kuwait Envoy Calls for Continued Japanese Support

OW1601104991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1023 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 16 KYODO—Kuwait wants Japan to continue supporting the international effort to drive Iraqi troops out of that country, Kuwaiti Ambassador to Japan Abd al-'Aziz al-Sharikh told Foreign Ministry officials Wednesday.

Sharikh made the remarks in a meeting between envoys of member-states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and Makoto Watanabe, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Middle Eastern and African Affairs Bureau, the officials said.

Sharikh, speaking after the United Nations deadline for an Iraqi withdrawal passed at 2 P.M. Tokyo time, was quoted as saying that the GCC members are peace-loving countries and that it is a pity that Iraq has chosen the path of conflict. He expressed appreciation for Japan's support for the series of U.N. Security Council resolutions against Iraq and called for continued backing of international actions to secure Kuwait's freedom, the officials said.

Watanabe said he regrets that efforts to achieve a peaceful resolution have not borne fruit. Nevertheless, he said, it is important to continue such efforts up to the last minute before force is exercised. He said any solution of the crisis must be in line with the U.N. Security Council resolutions on the issue.

Leaders Declare 'Maximum Support' for Gulf Forces

OW1501150291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1450 GMT 15 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 15 KYODO—Japan will declare its maximum support for the U.S.-led multinational coalition of forces in the event of war in the Persian Gulf, government sources said Tuesday.

Leaders of the government and ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] reached the decision during a meeting arranged hours before the United Nations deadline for Iraq to withdraw its troops from Kuwait.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and the four cabinet ministers and four top LDP officials who attended the session did not discuss whether to provide additional financial support to the multinational forces or to send personnel to the Gulf region, the sources said.

Japan has so far provided 2 billion dollars in financial support for the multinational forces and pledged another 2 billion dollars in economic assistance to the so-called frontline nations hard hit by the Gulf crisis, especially Egypt, Jordan, and Turkey.

Kaifu, emerging from the 90-minute session, called the Gulf situation very serious and said government and party leaders have reached a common perception of the crisis.

The nine men agreed that Japan would issue a statement immediately if war breaks out promising the country's support for the multinational forces.

In the event of a Gulf war, they agreed, the cabinet will convene an emergency session of the security council, chaired by Kaifu, establish a crisis management headquarters, also headed by the prime minister, issue the government statement, order evacuation of Japanese nationals in the region, and work out an emergency package of energy policies, the sources said.

Kaifu, Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, International Trade and Industry Minister Eiichi Nakao, Transport Minister Kanezo Muraoka, and Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto represented the cabinet at the session at the prime minister's official residence.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, currently in the United States, was absent.

Ichiro Ozawa, LDP secretary general, Takeo Nishioka, chairman of the decision-making Executive Council, Mutsuki Kato, chairman of the Policy Affairs Research Council, and Yuji Osada, leader of party members in the House of Councillors, represented the governing party.

The nine men also agreed to meet again Wednesday immediately after the 2 P.M. Tokyo time deadline for Iraq to leave Kuwait or face war with the multinational forces, the sources said.

Makoto Watanabe, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Middle Eastern and African Affairs Bureau, briefed the government and party leaders about the latest developments in the Gulf, telling them that a Gulf war is very likely.

Earlier Tuesday, Kaifu huddled with senior government officials and discussed the dispatch of aircraft or ships to evacuate Japanese residents in the Gulf region in the event of war.

They also discussed whether to send a medical team to the region, the sources said.

Vessels Ordered To Leave Gulf Danger Areas

OW1601102691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0906 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 16 KYODO—Japanese shipowners said Wednesday they have ordered their vessels, mostly oil tankers, to speed to safe areas inside or out of the Persian Gulf, with the expiry of the U.N.-set deadline for Iraq to quit Kuwait.

They said the order was radioed to Japanese ships in the Gulf after agreement was reached at a meeting between representatives of shipowners and the seamen's union on Wednesday.

Japan, heavily dependent on crude oil imported from the Middle East, kept its ships in the Gulf during the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war.

Shipping industry sources said they expect a fierce but short-lived war should conflict break out.

The Transport Ministry said 10 Japanese vessels were operating in the Gulf on Wednesday, including two in areas it considered safe.

Under Wednesday's agreement between shipowners and the union, Japanese ships will be barred from the Eastern coast of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and Qatar, halting loading of Japan-bound crude oil from the three nations.

The Japanese vessels also were ordered to refrain from nighttime cruising. If night sailing was necessary, they were told lights should be turned off if an emergency arose to avoid involvement in the conflict.

Ministry officials said the government left the decision on movements of Japanese ships in the region to the discretion of shipowners and the union.

KYODO on Nationals Remaining in Gulf Area

OW1601005291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0007 GMT 16 Jan 91

[All figures as received]

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 16 KYODO—At least 560 Japanese nationals still remain in Saudi Arabia and other Middle East countries as war looms in the region, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday.

A list compiled by the ministry showed that as of Wednesday morning there were 213 Japanese in eastern Saudi Arabia and another 87 in Riyadh, about 200 in Israel, 28 in Qatar, 16 in Syria, 13 in Bahrain, and two in Jordan.

The Foreign Ministry, which has previously issued a call for Japanese nationals to leave the six Middle East countries voluntarily, may issue a strong call for evacuation of the area, ministry sources said.

There were 997 Japanese in the six countries as of December 26.

Foreign Ministry sources said most of the Japanese in the eastern province of Saudi Arabia are involved in a power station construction project.

The Japanese companies involved in the project are reluctant to evacuate their Japanese staff since the project is a joint venture with local interests, they said. Underground shelters and gas masks are available at the construction site in case war breaks out.

The Japanese remaining in Israel, Syria, and Jordan are mostly Japanese married to local citizens and students. All Japanese business people have been evacuated from the three countries, Foreign Ministry sources said.

Official on Effect of Gulf War on Oil Supply

OW1601111191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1101 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 16 KYODO—The effect of a war in the Persian Gulf on Japan's oil market will be limited due to sizable oil reserves, a top-ranking official of the Agency of Natural Resources and Energy said Wednesday.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Japan has 142 days supply of crude oil in private and government reserves.

Even if a war completely stops supplies from the Gulf, ships loaded with oil from the region will keep arriving in Japan for three weeks, the period it takes a tanker to travel from the Gulf to Japan, he said.

"I think it is quite unlikely that a war would continue for very long," he added.

Some 53 percent of Japan's crude oil imports come through the Strait of Hormuz at the entrance to the Gulf, according to OECD statistics.

The official also said oil prices would soar when war begins, but that the prices would come down before long.

"It is important not to buy oil at high prices," he said, adding the agency will instruct oil companies not to rush to buy oil at soaring prices.

The official also said the supply-demand balance in the domestic fuel oil market is quite favorable at the moment, and that the winter season will end by March, stressing there is no imminent possibility of a serious shortage of fuel oil.

The Natural Resources and Energy Agency's view was echoed by Japan's oil industry leader.

Yasuoki Takeuchi, president of the Petroleum Association of Japan, told a news conference that in the event of a Gulf war a steep rise in crude oil prices could be averted if Japan and other oil consuming nations do not rush to purchase high priced crude.

Takeuchi said the impact of such a war on Japan's crude oil supply would be minor, as adequate reserves are being held by oil refiners, with 88 days' supply.

He estimated Japan's crude oil reserves would fall to 57 days' supply at the end of March if imports from the Middle East came to a complete halt due to a war.

Middle East countries account for about 70 percent of Japan's crude oil imports.

Japan can withstand the impact of a Gulf war until the end of June if reserves amounting to 54 days' supply held by the government are used, Takeuchi said.

He appealed to consumers to step up energy-saving efforts.

MITI Welcomes IEA's Oil Contingency Plan

OW1201021991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0149 GMT 12 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 12 KYODO—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry [MITI] welcomed Saturday a contingency plan unveiled Friday by the International Energy Agency (IEA) aimed at coping with any temporary shortfall in oil supplies resulting from the outbreak of war in the Persian Gulf.

The IEA emergency plan would make available an additional 2.5 million barrels a day of crude oil worldwide to offset any temporary shortage.

Under terms of the plan mapped out at an IEA governing board meeting in Paris, 80 percent of the additional amount will come from emergency national stocks and 20 percent from demand restraint measures.

MITI officials stressed the significance of the plan, emphasizing not the figures involved but rather the fact that the IEA has worked out a concrete contingency plan.

The plan demonstrates the dedication of member nations to work together to minimize disruptions caused by any oil shortage resulting from war in the Gulf, MITI officials said. The plan would be launched following notification by IEA Executive Director Helga Steeg after consultations with member governments.

If a decision to carry out the plan were made, the Japanese Government would immediately respond by issuing an order lowering the private-sector legal minimum oil storage level, currently equivalent to 82 days' national consumption, MITI officials said. The government would also encourage further energy conservation measures under such circumstances, the officials said.

KDD To Secure Communication Circuits to Gulf

OW1601114991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1112 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 16 KYODO—Kokusai Denshin Denwa Co. (KDD) will make every effort to secure telecommunications circuits between Japan and the Middle East as war in the Persian Gulf looms large, officials said Wednesday.

KDD anticipates a sharp increase in the number and duration of communications should war break out, and will use lines linking Tokyo with Rome and London as backups for satellite communications between Japan and Middle East countries.

Company officials said U.S. television stations have increased their use of Japan-Middle East circuits via a communications satellite over the Indian Ocean for transmission of programs since Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on August 2.

The officials said the company plans to use all idle circuits to meet the growing demand for communications between Japan and Gulf states, including Iraq.

They said the number of telephone call orders from Japan to Iraq, which averaged about 100 per day, have increased to 1,500 to 3,000 since late last week, with only about 50 calls getting through.

Calls to Saudi Arabia and Iran also increased sharply despite limited capacity.

Kaifu Comments on Bessmertnykh's Appointment

OW1501131691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1254 GMT 15 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 15 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Tuesday expressed his hope that new Soviet Foreign Minister Aleksandr will pursue "new thinking diplomacy" in line with President Mikhail Gorbachev's perestroyka reforms.

Asked by reporters about Bessmertnykh's appointment as successor to Eduard Shevardnadze, Kaifu said, "I hope the new Soviet foreign minister will steadily go ahead with perestroyka."

Earlier in the day, the Supreme Soviet endorsed Bessmertnykh, 57, ambassador to the United States, as foreign minister to replace Eduard Shevardnadze, who suddenly announced his resignation in late December, the Soviet official TASS NEWS AGENCY reported.

Foreign Ministry sources, welcoming the career diplomat as Shevardnadze's successor, said the appointment paves the way for a planned visit by Gorbachev to Japan in April.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama is scheduled to go to Moscow on January 21 for talks with the new Soviet foreign minister to prepare for Gorbachev's visit.

Talks With DPRK Planned for 30 Jan in Pyongyang

OW1101232791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1257 GMT 11 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 11 KYODO—Japan and North Korea will hold their first formal round of talks on normalization of diplomatic relations January 30 in Pyongyang, the Foreign Ministry announced Friday.

The Japanese delegation to the talks will arrive in Pyongyang on January 29, ministry officials said.

If the talks run over schedule, they will be continued January 31 and the delegation is expected to return to Japan by February 2, the officials said. Discussions are expected center around the timetable and agenda for the negotiation process.

Pyongyang is expected to press for compensation for Japan's 1910-1945 colonization of the Korean peninsula and for Tokyo's allegedly hostile policy toward North Korea since it came into being at the end of World War II.

Japan, meanwhile, will call on North Korea to make its nuclear facilities open to inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), so as to ensure that its nuclear program is only for peaceful purposes, the officials said.

Nakayama Interviewed on Talks With Bush, Baker

OW1601022091 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1248 GMT 15 Jan 91

[Interview with Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, in Washington, by NHK newscaster Hatsuhisa Takashima, in the NHK studio in Tokyo, via satellite relay—recorded; from the "NHK News 21" program]

[Text] [Video shows Nakayama and Takashima on split sceen image] [Takashima] Foreign Minister Nakayama, now visiting the United States, held a series of talks with President Bush, Secretary of State Baker, and other U.S. administration leaders this morning. At the talks, the U.S. leaders asked for the Japanese Government's full support and additional assistance, in case military conflict erupts in the Middle East. In response, Foreign Minister Nakayama indicated that the Japanese Government will comply with such requests. I interviewed Foreign Minister Nakayama, who completed the talks with the U.S. leaders, about how the U.S. leaders view the future of the Gulf crisis.

Mr. Foreign Minister, what sort of impressions did you get from the U.S. leaders at the talks on the eve of the deadline for the Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait? Do they see peace or war?

[Nakayama] Tension here is running higher than I anticipated. Our government has thus far collected various information. I felt an extraordinary tension during the talks with Secretary of State Baker, who had just returned home after holding talks with leaders of the nations he visited. At the same time, I felt keenly the strong resolve of the United States.

[Takashima] As part of last-minute efforts, France is making a new proposal at a UN Security Council meeting. Do you think the possibility of a peaceful settlement in the Gulf crisis has become slim?

[Nakayama] Yes, I think so. In other words, there is a high possibiity that the restoration of peace through the use of force is viewed as realistic, and this is the impression I got here.

[Takashima] Mr. Foreign Minister, did you get such an impression in President Bush's remarks during your talks?

[Nakayama] Well, I heard views expressed by both Secretary of State Baker and President Bush at today's talks. Secretary of State Baker came straight to the White House from the airport immediately after returning home from Canada to join my talks with the President. During the talks with Secretary of State Baker, I felt his great disappointment about the attitude of President Husayn, who had not responded to his efforts to settle the crisis. I also felt his disappointment about difficulties in settling the crisis on the eve of the 15 January deadline set by the UN Security Council for the Iraqi pullout from Kuwait and the determination of the United States to deal with the crisis.

[Takashima] I understand that, during the talks, President Bush and Secretary Baker repeated remarks concerning Japan's maximum and further efforts for assistance. What specific assistance did they asked for? How do you think the Japanese Government should respond to these requests?

[Nakayama] They highly appraised Japan's previous cooperation. They asked Japan for full assistance, either in peace or war, until the crisis is settled.

[Takashima] According to various reports from the United States, there is a view among Americans that, if U.S. soldiers die in fighting in the desert, this will most benefit Japan, which depends heavily on oil from the Middle East. There is also concern among Americans that Japan-U.S. relations might worsen should war break out. Mr. Foreign Minister, what impressions did you get from the leaders of the U.S. Government during the talks about future Japan-U.S. relations?

[Nakayama] Frankly, I think what you have just mentioned is real. Among many nations, Japan is a nation which depends most heavily on oil from the Persian Gulf. Hence, not only the American people, but also the people of many other nations, are paying attention to how Japan responds to the crisis. I think it is necessary for Japan, as a nation, to adopt an attitude of cooperating vigorously with other nations for the settlement of the crisis.

[Takashima] Mr. Foreign Minister, would you tell me specifically how Japan should cooperate vigorously with other nations?

[Nakayama] Well, I think that Japan's assistance to the multinational forces is important. There is other aid. The UNHCR [UN High Commission for Refugees] has estimated initial costs for refugees, in case war breaks out, at $38 million. During the talks with the President, I told him that Japan would bear the total amount of $38 million. I think that various problems will arise from now on. I anticipate that the Japanese Government will be asked to cooperate as much as possible within the limits of the Constitution.

[Takashima] Will the Japanese Government be asked to send personnel, in addition to financial assistance?

[Nakayama] Well, I think that it is in effect very difficult for Japan to send personnel abroad under the present framework of the Constitution and laws.

[Takashima] Mr. Foreign Minister, did you tell that to the U.S. leaders at today's talks?

[Nakayama] I did not need to explain that to the U.S. leaders. They are aware of the results of the deliberations at the recent Diet session. They are also well aware of what Japan can and cannot do. What Japan can do is cooperate with goods and transportation, and financial assistance to the multinational forces. I think that Japan will be asked to cooperate in these fields. I also think that Japan should provide active financial assistance for refugees.

[Takashima] Mr. Foreign Minister, thank you for appearing on our interview program, despite your busy schedule.

[Nakayama] You are welcome.

Nakayama, Doi Return Home From Overseas Trips

OW1601120391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1141 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 16 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama returned home Wednesday afternoon from his U.S. visit where he held talks with President George Bush and other U.S. Government leaders.

At Nakayama's heels, Takako Doi, chairwoman of the Japan Socialist Party (JSP), came back from a tour of France and Iraq.

The opposition leader held talks with President Francois Mitterrand in Paris and President Saddam Husayn in Baghdad on the Persian Gulf situation.

Okinawa Governor Planning Feb Visit to U.S.

OW1201141491 Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO in Japanese 5 Jan 91 Morning Edition p 1

[Text] The prefectural government has begun preparations for Governor Ota's visit to the United States in early 1991. It will sound out the Foreign Ministry and U.S. Embassy in Tokyo on the possibility of realizing the visit as early as February. The prefectural government hopes that the governor will be able to visit the United States in mid-February, before the start of the prefectural assembly's regular February session, and that he will be accompanied by the mayors of Ginowan and Okinawa cities, where U.S. military bases are located. Those accompanying the governor include Naha City Mayor Kosei Oyadomari and Ginowan City Mayor Seiken Tobaru. In addition to demanding an early return of bases in Okinawa, the governor will call on officials of the U.S. side for their understanding regarding the issue of establishing a prefectural office in Washington. He strongly wants to establish one.

The length of the visit will probably be about 10 days and the governor and his entourage will hold negotiations and meetings with officials of the Department of State, the Department of Defense, the U.S. Congress, and those who are concerned with the mass media. Governor Ota has been making his intention to visit "the United States at an early stage" clear since winning the gubernatorial election. The prefectural government is planning to realize the visit sometime after formation of a budget for next fiscal year and before the start of the February session. Thus, it wants to make an official request to the Foreign Ministry and the U.S. side as early as mid-January. However, now that the Department of State and the Pentagon are busy with the Gulf crisis, there is a possibility that the visit by the governor and other officials may be postponed, if changes in the Middle East situation require it.

On the establishment of the Washington office, Governor Ota once indicated his strong desire, saying that he "would like to establish an organ in Washington to promote negotiations with the U.S. side on the base issue." He wants to make the office function as a strongpoint for collecting information in Washington and conducting lobbying activities with the U.S. Government and the Congress. Thus, he plans strengthening measures on the base issue by substantiating channels with the United States through an office in Tokyo.

In addition to explaining the plan to establish the same office, the governor, when he visits the United States, will call on the U.S. side for a return of U.S. military bases in Okinawa. Thus, he plans to lay rails and establish connections with the United States for future negotiations.

Moreover, since the governor also plans to demand the return of several U.S. bases, the Public Relations Department of the prefectural government will prepare a list of base facilities. Regarding Naha Military Port, Futenma Air Station, and other bases, the governor will study plans for utilization of land after they are returned. Governor Ota also plans to demand the U.S. practice self-restraint in military training.

The mayors of Naha and Ginowan cities were planning to visit the United States independently. However, now that Governor Ota has expressed his plan to visit the United States, a possibility has emerged for the mayors to accompany the governor. Governor Ota exchanged opinions with both mayors when he visited Tokyo for budget negotiations. They plan to hold an official meeting as early as next week on the itinerary of their trip, slated for mid-February.

On the timing of the visit to the United States, some members of the prefectural government and the opposition parties initially argued that it would be appropriate for the governor to make the visit "around April or May." However, due to Governor Ota's plan to "make the bases a main issue of the third promotion plan for development of

Okinawa," it has become the majority view that the governor will make the visit to the United States in February.

The governor plans to appeal to those inside and outside Japan about his plan to strengthen his efforts to tackle the base issue by making the visit before the prefectural government forms an outline of the third promotion plan for the development of Okinawa. The prefectural government has set the end of February as a time limit for formation of the outline.

Okinawa Groups Protest USMC Exercise

OW1201020391 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese 9 Jan 91 Evening Edition p 7

[Text] Two local antibase groups held rallies separately in the vicinity of Camp Hansen on the morning of 9 January to protest the first live firing exercise of the year over Prefectural Highway 104 conducted by U.S. Marine Corps [USMC] on Okinawa. The Okinawan Prefectural People's Council To Defend the Constitution and Oppose the Security Treaty [Goken Han-Anpo Kenmin Kaigi] (chairman: Zenshun Arakaki) and the United Action Liaison Council To Defend Livelihood and Democracy [Toitsuren] (chairman: Masao Miyagi) urged a halt to the exercises and the removal of U.S. bases respectively.

Since the USMC on Okinawa is sending troops to the Middle East to cope with mounting tension there, the protest drew a larger crowd than usual.

The Toitsuren gathering held in front of gate one of Camp Hansen drew 50 participants. The participants shouted antibase slogans in the direction of the base to demonstrate their spirit. Expressing his resolve, Chairman Miyagi said: "It is unusual to carry out an exercise so early in the New Year. The struggle against exercises is a struggle to defend the lives and property of the people of Okinawa Prefecture. Let us persevere in our struggle."

Another gathering held by Goken Han-Anpo on a hill in Igei District close to the impact area drew some 100 people. Chairman Arakaki appealed: "This gathering today is our first activity this year. I want to make it clear to all that we will stick to it this year. Let us continue our antiwar campaigns tenaciously." All participants then repeatedly shouted slogans calling for a halt to exercises and the removal of U.S. bases.

The first shot was fired a little after 0820 in strong winds, followed by live shells shot into the Onna mountains in rapid succession.

Nikaido, U.S. Politician Plan UN Support Group

OW1601023691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0156 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Washington, Jan. 15 KYODO—Two senior Japanese and U.S. politicians agreed Tuesday to form an international parliamentarians' group designed to strengthen the effectiveness of the United Nations, Japanese officials said.

The agreement was reached between Susumu Nikaido, a former vice president of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), and U.S. House of Representatives majority leader Richard Gephardt. Nikaido and Gephardt, a Missouri Democrat, also discussed the Persian Gulf crisis and Japan-U.S. trade relations.

Nikaido is one of about 240 legislators who are members of the Japanese Parliamentarians League for the Promotion of United Nations Activities. League members include former prime ministers Yasuhiro Nakasone and Noboru Takeshita, and former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe.

Japanese officials said Nikaido also met Sen. Bill Bradley, who called for massive contributions from Japan to the U.S.-led multinational forces arrayed against Iraq. "Japan cannot send troops to the Gulf region under the present Constitution," an official quoted Nikaido as telling Bradley, a New Jersey Democrat and one of the potential Democratic presidential candidates in 1992. Nikaido, who studied at the University of Southern California before World War II, also told Bradley, "The Gulf crisis is a new test case for postwar Japan." Also present at the Nikaido-Bradley meeting were Yoshiro Hayashi, a former welfare minister, and LDP member Hakuo Yanagisawa.

Hayashi and Gephardt cochair the U.S.-Japan Committee for Promoting Trade Expansion, a group of Japanese and U.S. legislators. The Nikaido group will meet House Speaker Thomas Foley on Wednesday.

Carmakers Reject Call To Cut U.S. Market Share

OW1201005991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1353 GMT 11 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 11 KYODO—Japanese carmakers Friday brushed off a request from the head of the United Auto Workers (UAW) to limit the share of Japanese cars in the U.S. market.

"Such a request is totally unacceptable," said a senior official of a major Japanese carmaker.

Union President Owen Bieber, in a letter to Japanese International Trade and Industry Minister Eiichi Nakao, called on Japan to limit its share of the U.S. market to 1.3 million cars, or about 14 percent of the U.S. car market.

Noting that the share includes Japanese brands manufactured in the U.S., an official of Toyota Motor Corp. said, "It is completely illogical to count Japanese brands made in the U.S. along with exported finished cars." Some Japanese auto executives, however, found themselves squirming over the issue.

"The UAW's demand is nonsense ... but I can understand their feelings. The last thing we need at the moment is sore relations with the U.S.," one executive said.

Behind this wavering reaction are the woes of U.S. automakers amid the surging share of Japanese makes in the U.S. market.

The share of Japanese Marques rose to 29 percent in 1990, up 3 percentage points from the previous year. On the other hand, the sales of the big three—General Motors

Corp., Ford Motor Co., and Chrysler Corp.—are declining sharply. "The only thing we can do is to increase local production further, and show how we contribute to the U.S. economy," a Honda official said.

Auto Industry Head Slams UAW Bid

OW1601102391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0900 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Nagoya, Jan. 16 KYODO—The leader of the Japanese Automobile Industry on Wednesday slammed a United Auto Workers' (UAW) request to limit the share of Japanese cars in the United States, including those produced locally.

"Locally made cars are produced on the basis of free competition and American consumers ought to be left to choose which car they prefer," said Yutaka Kume, president of the Japan Automobile Manufacturers' Association.

Kume, who is also president of Nissan Motor Co., told reporters Japanese auto firms that produce cars in the U.S. have been trying to obtain parts from local companies.

Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) decided last week to extend the nation's voluntary restrictions on car exports to the U.S. until March 31, 1992. Japanese automakers are restricting their annual U.S.-bound car exports to 2.3 million vehicles.

UAW President Owen Bieber has called for curbing the share of Japanese cars in the U.S. to 1.3 million units, about 14 percent of the nation's market.

Japan's car exports to the U.S. totaled 1.95 million vehicles in fiscal 1989, while Japanese cars, including locally made ones, held a market share of about 30 percent of the U.S. market by the end of 1990.

Kume said he thought that MITI's decision to extend the voluntary export controls was based on reality.

Tokyo 'Gradually Easing' Sanctions on S. Africa

OW1201002491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1246 GMT 11 Jan 91

[Text] Johannesburg, Jan. 11 KYODO—Japan is gradually easing the sanctions it imposed to protest South Africa's apartheid system of racial segregation, allowing more trade with Pretoria.

Sources close to major Japanese companies trading with South Africa said Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry [MITI] has been softening its stance against trade between the two countries since the first of this year.

The sources said they see the move as a signal that MITI is virtually lifting its "administrative guidance" that the companies should keep the volume of their trade with South Africa below year-earlier levels, following recent moves to ease racial segregation.

The instruction was issued in 1988 out of fear that Japan might provoke resentment among antiapartheid countries unless its trade with South Africa showed a decline.

The Japanese Government has said there is no change in its sanctions against South Africa, at least for the moment. Japanese Consul General Masatoshi Ota also said Tokyo has not lifted its instruction of "self-restraint" in trade with South Africa. "There has been no change in Japan's policy toward South Africa," Ota told KYODO NEWS SERVICE.

In 1987, Japan overtook the United States as South Africa's biggest trading partner, but has dipped behind the former West Germany in total trade with the white minority-ruled country since 1987. The consulate general in Pretoria estimated trade between the two countries at 3.3 billion dollars last year, which would place Japan fifth in trade with South Africa.

Since 1985, the Japanese Government has taken a series of measures to pressure South Africa to end its apartheid system. It currently bans all direct investment by Japanese companies, and limits cultural, sports, and tourism exchanges. But Japan is apparently becoming flexible in these controls. Japan had strictly applied the regulations, but it recently issued a commercial visa for South African professional golfer Gary Player to visit Japan to design a golf course. Also, it has issued visas for South African amateur judo, karate, and kendo players on the condition that they not participate in matches.

Ota is also scheduled to deliver a speech at the opening ceremony of a Japanese ukiyoe exhibition starting late this month at a municipal art museum in Johannesburg. But Ota maintained that his speech will not be a cultural exchange. "It will not fall under the category of cultural exchanges because the ukiyoe exhibition will be sponsored by the museum without bringing ukiyoe art from Japan."

"Many black South Africans are invited to the exhibition. I've decided to attend the ceremony to promote mutuual understanding between Japan and South Africa, which is now in the process of reforms," he said.

North Korea

'Criminal Attempt' To Dispatch Gulf Force Viewed

SK1601105591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1024 GMT 16 Jan 91

["MINJU CHOSON Lashes at South Korean Authorities' Criminal Attempt To Dispatch Combat Force to Gulf Area"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 16 (KCNA)—MINJU CHOSON today comments on the criminal attempt of the South Korean authorities to dispatch combat force to the Gulf area.

The news analyst of the paper says:

The South Korean authorities insisted they did not examine the matter of dispatching puppet troops to the Gulf area. This is no more than a deceptive trick to conceal their plan to offer fellow countrymen as cannon fodder for a war of aggression the U.S. imperialists are trying hard to start in this area.

As there is no smoke without fire, reports about it are not unfounded.

However, the South Korean authorities pretend not to know it.

It is an unpardonable, anti-national criminal move that they are going to take an active part in the U.S. imperialists' open armed intervention and aggressive acts in the Gulf area and offer fellow countrymen as cannon fodder for the imperialists' war of aggression.

The No Tae-u ruling group is going to zealously join their master the U.S. imperialists in the war of aggression at a time when the progressive people of the world are striving for a peaceful solution of the Gulf crisis without outside interference. This brings to light their ugly nature as a colonial stooge, flunkeyist traitor and detached force of the imperialist aggression.

That is why their criminal act provokes indignation among the people of all strata in South Korea.

They must lend an ear to the voice of the South Korean people and give up their criminal attempt to dispatch combat force to the Gulf area and their plan to drive out young men to the U.S. imperialists' war of aggression.

Radio Notes Western Criticism of Soviet Crackdown

SK1601095191 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 15 Jan 91

[Text] According to reports, regarding the Soviet Union recently sending military troops to Lithuania and taking action to strengthen military control to bring the chaotic situation there under control, the United States and other Western countries have shamelessly put pressure to bear on this, talking about ceasing cooperation with the Soviet Union.

At a news conference on 13 January at the White House, U.S. President Bush, saying that the Latvian situation is indeed uneasy, denounced the Soviet Union for its use of force. He then threatened that the Lithuanian situation may injure the warm U.S.-USSR relations which have developed since the Soviet Union adopted reforms.

In a statement released on 13 January, U.S. Secretary of State Baker, saying that durable cooperation and the partnership between the United States and the Soviet Union depends on how the Soviet Union continues to push ahead with its reforms, raved that the use of force against Lithuania will endanger the partnership between the United States and the Soviet Union.

On 14 Janauary, White House Spokesman Fitzwater, as well, said that the prospects for the U.S.-Soviet summit talks, scheduled for mid-February, have become clouded and indicated a possibile suspension of aid to the Soviet Union.

The EC also threatened that if [the Soviet Union's] military action should continue in the republics along the Baltic Sea, it will suspend cooperation with the Soviet Union.

Referring to the fact that the EC member nations recently agreed to provide $1 billion in aid to the Soviet Union, the EC foreign ministers' conference declared in its statement adopted on 14 Janaury that if the present situation does not end, it will be inevitable to suspend implementation of EC cooperation with the Soviet Union.

On the same day, the NATO member nations said in a statement that if the use of force occurs again, it will have negative consequences on relations between the NATO member nations and the Soviet Union and urged the Soviet Union to continue the process of peaceful reform and democratic change.

North Sports Official Briefs Media on Talks

SK1601062491 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0900 GMT 15 Jan 91

[Text] This is a report filed by reporter Yu Taek-hwan from Panmunjom. Amid the great expectations of all the fellow countrymen and sportsmen in the North and South, a news conference after the conclusion of the second North-South sports talks was held on the morning of 15 January in the Southern section of Panmunjom. Kim Hyong-chin, vice chairman of the DPRK Olympic Committee and head of our side's delegation to the North-South sports talks, spoke at the news conference.

[Begin Kim Hyong-chin recording] In the new year of 1991, in which we are filled with hope, I extend new year's greetings to you reporters, who have sincerely covered the sports talks for forming single North-South teams and who have made efforts to widely report on them. As you all know, the second sports talks have just ended. The two sides expressed their basic positions in today's talks. Our basic position was, first, to continue the talks after clearly agreeing on the agenda. No agreement was reached in the first talks on the agenda. Second, our position was to discuss the adoption of the letter of agreement on forming a single North-South team to participate in the 41st world table tennis championships; the adoption of a letter to be sent to the International Table Tennis Federation; and the fielding of single teams in other important international sports events. In the first talks, the South side called for discussing the issue of holding soccer games for reunification on a regular basis and other issues, and we clarified our side's basic position. I will not repeat our position, because you reporters have heard it. Today, the South side refused to discuss the agenda issue, on which no agreement had been reached in the first talks. It proposed that letters of agreement be adopted to field single teams in the 41st world table tennis championships and the sixth junior soccer championship and that an agreement be reached to hold soccer games for reunification on a regular basis.

In view of the purpose and mission of the current talks, our side proposed that an agreement be reached on the agenda of the talks, which had become a de facto agenda item. Our side did this because, even in today's talks, the South side refused to discuss an agenda item on participating in the 41st world table tennis championships, the 25th Barcelona Olympics, the third Samjiyon winter Olympics [as heard], and other important international sports events as single

North-South teams, which it had promised and declared to the world's people. Instead, it said something about the order of discussion of the issue in the talks. Therefore, we again urged the South side to make clear its position on the agenda. After ignoring the mutual agreement, the South side proposed in the first talks that the agenda be, first, the issue of holding soccer games for reunification on a regular basis and facilitating North-South sports exchange and, second, the issue of forming single teams.

When it was presenting the order of discussion on issues in the talks this time, the South side proposed that the letter of agreement on participating in the 41st world table tennis championships and the sixth world junior soccer championship as single teams be first discussed. Therefore, we concluded that the South side agreed on the agenda, which had already become an accomplished fact. As a result, according to the agenda, the talks discussed the letter of agreement to participate in the 41st world table tennis championships as a single North-South team.

Agreement was reached on many issues in today's discussion on the letter of agreement. However, the two sides had a difference on some issues. One of them is how to select athletes. The South side proposed that athletes be selected in tryouts, while we proposed that they be selected by consensus. Regarding the formation of athletic teams, we proposed that co-leaders of a team be appointed, while the South side proposed that the side that has a greater number of athletes appoint a team leader and that a working-level committee discuss and decide on a team leader in case an equal number of athletes are selected. In addition, the two sides had some difference on joint training and general training. As a result, the two sides agreed to discuss and agree on these issues in the next talks after further studying them.

Regarding the letter of agreement to participate in the sixth world junior soccer championship as a single team, we presented a letter of agreement in the first talks, and the South side presented its own today for the first time. The two letters of agreement have differences on those issues on which there was no agreement in principle in forming a single table tennis team. In other words, they had differences on how to appoint a team leader and select athletes. Therefore, if an agreement is reached on participation in the 41st world table tennis championships as a single North-South team, an agreement can be easily reached on participation in the sixth junior soccer championship as a single North-South team. The two sides were of the same opinion on this. Based upon the principle of reconciliation and unity and the principle that sports circles must contribute to hastening reunification, the North and South agreed to narrow differences in views in the next talks after further studying issues.

I will generally sum up today's talks. Here are some successes. One of them is: Discussions started on the agenda according to the spirit of the letter of agreement, which the two sides announced, and according to the agreed agenda. Another is: The South side agreed on the agenda, which the South side proposed in the first talks and which have become an accomplished fact. The last is: Because what the two sides are discussing is to form single teams not for all the sporting events but for only table tennis matches, in which only approximately ten athletes will participate after general training, and because the two sides know very well how the other has done in international events, I firmly believe that athletes can be easily selected by consensus. This is what people involved in table tennis in the North and South expect and demand. I think that if discussions are held based on this principle, the two sides can easily achieve good results in the next talks. We concluded today's talks after promising that we will resolve the urgent issue of forming single teams.

It was agreed that the next talks will be held on 30 January at Tongilgak, on our side. [end recording]

At the news conference, he answered questions by reporters.

South's Guidebook for North Called 'Poor Farce'

SK1601052091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0431 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 16 (KCNA)—The No Tae-u ruling group published "Tourist Guidebook for Visitors to the North," according to a radio report from Seoul.

Advertising that this "guidebook" introduces "entry and exit formalities for trip to the North," "bus fare," "postal charges" and the like, the authorities announced that it would be distributed and be on sale.

This advertisement is nothing but a third-rate drama meant to justify their anti-reunification formula of "unified channel of dialogue."

Timed to coincide with the advertisement of this "guidebook", there came an announcement of the authorities that they would "support" all applications for a visit to the North if they are not of "political nature." This suggests that they will block all the desires of nongovernmental people to visit the North for the purpose of reunification dialogues by charging them with "political purpose" in the future, too.

The authorities can never justify their "unified channel of dialogue" formula with such a poor farce.

NODONG SINMUN on 'Reckless' Exercises

SK1601053791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0505 GMT 16 Jan 91

["Vicious Challenge to Peace Efforts"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 16 (KCNA)—The U.S. Pacific Airforce command recently staged reckless aerial exercises on several occasions in the air above South Korea.

Commenting on this, a news analyst of NODONG SINMUN today says:

These military manoeuvres showed again that the U.S. imperialists, loud-mouthed as they are about "peace" on the Korean peninsula, have no intention to renounce the policy of confrontation and war based on the stand of strength.

They have brought new-type combat equipment into South Korea from the beginning of the year for a war gamble. This fact apparently reveals their intention to intensify still further the aggressive moves against the North this year.

The news analyst goes on to say:

The never-ceasing military exercises of the U.S. imperialists are a vicious challenge to our Republic that gives priority to the settlement of the question of peace on the Korean peninsula and is making all sincere efforts to this end.

The U.S. imperialists are directing the spearhead of their anti-socialist strategy to our country that steadfastly adheres to the revolutionary stand and the socialist principle. A surprise forestalling attack from the air, a nuclear attack operation, is the keypoint of their strategy against the North. The U.S. reactionary circles openly blare that a nuclear operation based on air supremacy "is the most effective means of containing North Korea".

The U.S. imperialists refuse to give up the wild design to contain our Republic with military supremacy, nuclear preponderance, and put the whole of Korea under their domination, and they are creating the danger of a disastrous war on the Korean peninsula, taking more steps toward aggression on the North.

But it is a foolish dream for the U.S. imperialists to try to stifle our Republic by strength.

Our people will never allow the enemy's moves to demolish the peculiar socialism of our style which provides them with an independent and creative life.

U.S., South 'Frantically' Stage 'War Exercises'

SK1601054291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0420 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 16 (KCNA)—The South Korean puppets on January 14 massed a large force of puppet army ground units in Uijongbu and Chunchon areas to frantically stage exercises for attack on the North with the support of formations of fighter-bombers, assault planes and observation planes such as F-16, F-4, F-5, A-37, O-2 and OA-10 of the U.S. imperialists and the puppet airforce, according to military sources. In particular, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets that day committed a provocation by sending two fighter-bombers up to the sky above the Military Demarcation Line.

Earlier, on January 11, the U.S. imperialists sent formations of Kadena-based nuclear-capable F-16 fighter-bombers and FA-18 pursuit-assault planes to the sky above Kanghwa Islet, Chonju, Chungju and Yoju to stage an air strike exercise simulating war against the North in coordination with formations of F-16, F-4 and F-5 fighter-bombers belonging to the South Korean puppet airforce.

In another development, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities incited war fever on the same day by staging a joint exercise of ground units for attack on the North in Uijongbu, Hwachon, Pochon and Koyang areas, supported by formations of fighter-bombers, observation planes and assault planes.

On January 11, the South Korean authorities set in motion formations of C-123 transport planes carrying a huge number of "commandos" to stage a parachuting exercise simulating an infiltration into the depths of the Northern half of Korea in the sky above Seoul. Earlier, on January 10, they held a day-and-night landing operation exercise for long hours in the sea off Chawol Islet on the Kanghwa Bay near the Military Demarcation Line with the support of flying corps.

The number of the planes mobilized in war exercises in the airspace of South Korea on January 11 alone totalled more than 540.

The unending war exercises of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities irrefutably prove that their talk about "relaxation of the tension" and "confidence-building" is a lie.

Mass Meeting Welcomes Defector From South

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[Text] Pyongyang January 16 (KCNA)—Pyongyangites held a mass meeting Tuesday to welcome compatriot Won Yong-kwan, representative of the Ansan Tongil business company of South Korea, who has come over to the North.

Order of the DPRK and a large sum of bonus were conferred on him and souvenirs handed to him at the meeting.

In his welcoming address, Sin An-pang, vice-chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal Administration and Economic Guidance Committee, highly praised his coming over to the North against the colonial repressive rule of the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u military fascist clique as a patriotic act for the country and the nation and for national reunification and warmly welcomed him in the name of Pyongyang citizens.

In his reply address, Won Yong-kwan expressed his heartfelt thanks and warm greetings to the great President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il who embraced him in a boundlessly broad bosom of love and enabled him to lead a worthy life.

I would like to shout at the top of my voice that the politics administered by the great President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il is, indeed, a policy of attaching importance to the people and the people in the North are enjoying all blessings under the loving care as warm as sunlight, he said, and continued:

Particularly, i could not but be sunk in thought when respected President Kim Il-song said in his New Year address that our party has been devoting everything to the struggle for the interests and happiness of the popular masses under the slogan "We serve the people!" And our people, bearing in mind the motto "When the party is determined we can do anything!" As their faith, follow the party's leadership with loyalty.

The more I think over them again, the more keenly I realise what gem-like words they are.

The North where the party serves the people and the people have the firm faith that they can do anything when the party is determined—this is a pride of the North, source of strength and honor of our nation.

All the people in the North are leading an equal and worthy life, fully aware of being the masters. It is only too natural that people in the South are looking forward to the day when the people-oriented politics will be administered in the South as in the North, regarding the North as a beacon of hope.

The socialist North is a genuine motherland for our 70 million fellow countrymen.

Ideological Base of Chuche Discussed

SK1401122191 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0000 GMT 11 Jan 91

[NODONG SINMUN 11 January special article: "The Chuche Idea Is the Ideological Base of the Invincible Vitality and Firmness of Socialism in Our Country"]

[Text] Cherishing a great pride and faith in building the most firm socialism, our people are now vigorously accelerating the new year's march.

In his New Year's Address, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, after explaining the source of the firmness of our socialism built under the chuche banner, has unfurled before us a more brilliant prospect.

Our people are now renewing their faith in how to advance along the road brightened by the chuche idea, more wholeheartedly than ever.

By thoroughly embodying the chuche idea upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year's Address, we should make the cheers for the victory of socialism in our country reverberate without end.

1. The chuche idea is a great guiding ideology capable of brilliantly solving the issue of an ideological base for building the most firm socialism.

In his New Year's Address, the great leader, explaining the way socialism can advance, without wavering, in our country which stands face to face with the U.S. imperialists, at a time when the imperialists are babbling about a crisis in socialism, has taught that it was thanks to the firmly established chuche.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: Even under today's complicated situation, socialism keeps advancing victoriously in our country. This is because, above all, the guiding ideology of our revolution is just and our people's faith in socialism is firm. In order to successfully build the socialism, it is imperative to have a correct guiding ideology without fail.

The firmness of socialism is at once the firmness of its ideological base, as well as the greatness of the guiding ideology. In social and historical movements the guiding ideology plays a role akin to a compass. Only with the guiding ideology is it possible to victoriously blaze the untrodden path to socialism.

Although the socialist ideals are noble, they can never be realized if a right way can not be found to advance them. Solving the question of an ideological base of socialism with a correct guiding ideology is a precondition for realizing the socialist ideals.

As has been explained by dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, the consolidation and development of socialism can be ensured by the scientific, revolutionary, and practical nature of the ideology and theory on which it is stood.

The chuche idea, the guiding ideology of our socialism, is the ideological base capable of building the most firm socialism. The chuche idea constitutes the firm base of socialism because, primarily, the popular masses regard socialism as their own life-and-death requirement and build it along the most straightforward road.

The popular masses are the roots of socialism. No storm can rock the socialism that has fused its roots in the hearts of the popular masses.

The chuche idea is an ideology that defends and realizes the independent demands and interests of the popular masses most thoroughly. This teaches that the socialist and communist cause is a noble cause designed to completely realize independence and the life of human beings.

Anyone who has grasped this fact is destined to cherish deep in their hearts that the chuche idea is as valuable as his own life and that the socialist cause is a noble cause that enables him to explore his fate brilliantly.

The chuche idea makes socialism function in the hearts of the popular masses as an indomitable pull by making them choose a road on which to build socialism suitable to the desire of the people by establishing the chuche in all domains of activity.

Each country that is building socialism has a different reality. So, the way each country has chosen to build socialism cannot be identical with the other. Socialism can be viable only when it is one that is being built according to the desire of the people.

The chuche idea enables one to handle everything sanely, instead of making one copy others or follow another's tune. Being in one's right mind is an independent spirit that enables one to think everything with one's own brain, with the desire of the popular masses placed at the center, and then solve everything according to the dictates of his reasoning.

When chuche is established, there can be no such thing as forcing one to do something that does not fit well with reality and it always enables one to avoid making mistakes concerning ideology and ensure their scientific nature and practicality.

Socialism built on the chuche idea is an indomitable cause that enjoys absolute support from the popular masses.

The chuche idea's guarantee for the firmness of socialism lies in the fact that it consolidates and develops the ideological base of socialism without ceasing by deepening and developing the revolutionary theories and methods in a way that meets the demands of the advancing revolution.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has noted: To defend and advance socialism in the fierce struggle against all types of enemies, it is imperative to develop and consummate the revolutionary ideas and theories of the working class according to the demands of the times and the developing revolution.

Because we have the chuche idea at our disposal, we have solved the question of consolidating and developing the ideological base of socialism most brilliantly.

Consolidating and developing the ideological base of socialism is a precondition for consolidating and developing socialism itself. The development of socialism can be ensured only by developing the ideology and theories.

On the socialist road guided by the chuche idea, which is filled with independence and creativeness, scientific and practical ideologies and theories can make endless advancement.

Because it keeps enriching and developing the trove of the working class's revolutionary ideas and theories, the chuche idea consolidates and develops the ideological base of socialism.

That the chuche idea constitutes the base of the invincibility of socialism also lies in its ability to thoroughly overcome the penetration by all old-fashioned ideas and to resolutely defend and safeguard socialism.

The confrontation between the revolution and the counterrevolution is chiefly an ideological confrontation. To win or suffer defeat in this confrontation depends on what kind of ideological weapons one is armed with. The victory to be won by socialism in this confrontation is, above all, a victory to be won in the ideological area.

Today, the imperialists have all the arrows of their offensive massed at undermining the ideological base of socialism by infiltrating the rotten bourgeois ideas into socialism. It is none other than the chuche idea that serves as a powerful weapon in smashing such an ideological offensive and accelerating the socialist advancement.

The chuche idea is an idea that came into being amid a struggle waged to overcome an array of chaotic ideas, such as bourgeois ideas and the opportunism bordering between the left-leaning and right-leaning ideas, and has fostered its indomitable might amid the flames of such a struggle.

Because it is an idea centered on the popular masses, the chuche idea serves as powerful ideological and theoretical weapons and even as a methodological weapon that are capable of smashing the anti-socialist ideological trends, while clearly revealing the reactionary nature of the counterrevolutionary ideological trends and even ways to overcome them.

As long as such powerful and mighty weapons exist, no ideological offensive from enemies can stay alive.

Another reason why the chuche idea constitutes the firm base of socialism is that it is a lasting guiding ideology capable of keeping socialism alive in the course of its succession from generation to generation.

The firmness of socialism depends largely on how the revolution stays alive at its advanced stage. Socialism can stay alive only when the ideas of a leader who has explored the revolution are resolutely defended, safeguarded, and inherited.

The pure inheritance of the loyalty and traditions of their preceding generations who upheld the leader's ideas and leadership by the new generations of the revolution is indeed an element that plays a crucial role in consolidating and developing socialism. An inheritance as such can be guaranteed only when all the new generations have a great idea worth worshiping and inheriting unanimously from generation to generation.

The chuche idea provides all the generations with strategy and tactics and ideological food necessary for exploring their fate, as well as a weapon for uniting.

Because of this, chuche makes all the generations, regardless of whether they are old or new, accept it as their own life and advance along the single road of the chuche socialism to the end.

In the revolutionary ranks which advance along the road indicated by the banner of the chuche idea the doyens of the revolution and even the old time party members, and the youth from the new generations are destined to advance along a single road breathing in accordance with the ideas and will of the leader who has explored the revolution.

There can be no such thing as the changed nature of socialism or frustration on this road.

That the chuche idea is the ideological base that guarantees the firmness of socialism is a truth that has been fully proved, theoretically and practically.

This truth has been proven more clearly in the whirlpool of today's history.

Through history and practice, our people consider it an endless pride to have the chuche idea as ideological base for socialism. Might of the chuche idea as ideological base for socialism is being further consolidated today by our party.

Our party is brilliantly resolving the issue of consolidating and developing the ideological base of socialism by constantly deepening and developing the chuche idea in accordance with the demand of developing revolution.

Because of this, our socialism is being, and will be constantly strengthened and developed into an indomitable cause in the future, too, as in the past.

Indeed, the fact that the most solid socialism has been built by providing the ideological base for socialism and by constantly consolidating and developing it is an immortal, everlasting historic achievement made by our party for time and revolution.

2. The firmness of socialism in our country is being firmly ensured by revolutionary gains which were obtained by embodying the chuche idea. Thanks to the wise leadership of the party and the leader, the chuche idea has been thoroughly embodied and thus a basic guarantee for consolidation and development of socialism has been provided in our country.

In his New Year address, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song taught that the powerful party which was built by embodying the chuche idea, the chuche-oriented people and chuche-oriented socialist system are the basic source of indomitable nature of our socialism.

In his New Year address, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: The great party which took deep root in the popular masses, the great people who are advancing by upholding the party's leadership, and man-centered socialism in which the chuche idea is embodied are the basis for firmness of socialism in our country. They are the sources of might which enable us to overcome any storm and trial.

The greatness of the chuche idea as an ideological base for socialism has been proven by the fact that the chuche idea has comprehensively provided all basic factors for building firm socialism. The basic factor defining the firmness in socialist cause is how the party is, how the people are, and how the socialist system is.

The party is a guide of socialism, the people are directly in charge of building socialism and the social system is a social foundation for accomplishing this cause. If the party, the people and social system are great and superior, the destiny and future of socialism are to be brilliantly pioneered. Thanks to the chuche idea which was embodied under the wise leadership of the party and the leader, all this has been assuredly provided in our country.

The chuche idea enabled us, above all, to build an ever-victorious and indomitable party, thus firmly ensuring the indomitable nature of our socialism. The party's leadership is the life of socialist cause. Without the party, there can be neither correct strategy and tactics of socialism nor can there be a defender and protector of ideal and principle of socialism. Thus, the masses will be utterly disunited.

If the party is full of life, socialism will be full of vitality and if the party is weak, socialism will suffer. This is a lesson taught by the international communist movement. Class enemies attempt to destroy the party first in the course of demolishing socialism. In order for one to safeguard the party itself in the fight against class enemies and to consolidate and develop socialism, one should build an indomitable party.

The chuche idea shows the most correct way for building an indomitable party in our era. Thanks to this idea, our party can excellently and uniquely solve all problems arising in building a powerful party by establishing a monolithic ideological system within the party and from building a party of the masses to the issue of ensuring continuity.

Today our party has become an indomitable party which attained firm unity based on the monolithic ideological system, an iron-clad party with strong organizational nature and discipline, and an invincible party which took deep root in the popular masses and which attained firm unity with the masses. Our party has become a party which inherits the leader's cause generation after generation with a bright future.

Because it is the party built on the embodiment of the chuche idea, our party has become the maternal party which, regarding the popular masses as the root of its life, struggles under the slogan, "We serve the people," and the people share their destiny with the party, regarding it as their heart and brain. Today's reality, where all the intellectuals throughout the country, are living together with the working class and peasants, in an extraordinary spirit of unity and are performing feats of loyalty, while firmly vowing to uphold their party and leader under all circumstances with a clean conscience and sense of obligation, is an impressive canvas which shows the greatness of our party which is advancing, holding the banner of the chuche idea.

Because people from all walks of life, including all classes and social strata, firmly unite with the leader ideologically, mentally, and in a comradely manner based on the chuche idea, our party has the characteristics and might which can guarantee the invincibility of socialism under all circumstances. Because of the existence of the logic of man-centered party building that the chuche idea has elucidated, it has been possible to build a mass party which leads socialism to take roots deep in the broad masses. Because of the elucidation of the principle of the chuche-oriented view of the leader, it has been possible not only to have today's great party which firmly guarantees and inherits the unitariness of ideology and leadership, but also to firmly rally all of society into one socio-ideological organism.

The chuche idea has become an invincible ideological fortress which prevents all sorts of ideological toxins—which erode and weaken the party—by infecting it. As it has become a firm unified body of ideological will in which the entire party seethes only with the chuche idea, our party has been consolidated and developed without faltering in face of any offensives by the imperialists and reactionaries. The solidness of our socialism which has become most stable politically and which has briskly entered people's lives is precisely the solidness of our party. It also constitutes precisely the invincibility of the chuche idea.

The chuche idea has also fostered our people who have thoroughly established chuche to be invinvible. Accordingly, the idea firmly guarantees the invincibility of our socialism. The solidness of socialism lies in the firmness of the popular masses' faith in socialism. One's firm faith in socialism can only be cherished in one's heart when one establishes chuche in one's ideology. Only those people who live with an independent ideological consciousness, that is to say, their right mind, can have pride in and attachment to their socialism, can become the genuine masters of it, and can thus strengthen and develop it. In strengthening and developing socialism, there is no more important work than to arm the builders of socialism with an independent consciousness.

The struggle for establishing chuche in ideology has been consistently waged in our country. Those people with a firm independent spirit have long since appeared in our country because the struggle for establishing chuche in ideology has been consistently waged in our country. Today, our people are filled with our party's revolutionary ideology, the revolutionary spirit of chuche. In our country no one lives with the spirit of others, and no one heeds the voices of others. Our people who have established chuche believe that our socialism is the best, that our party and leader are great, and that our party's policy is the most correct. They heartily cherish this as their firm faith. Apart from our party and leader and our socialism our people's independent and stable lives, the honor and value of their lives, and their hope and future cannot be contemplated. These are precisely the ideological and mental features of the people who established chuche.

Honeyed words from the imperialists cannot fool our people because they have been thoroughly armed with the chuche idea. The fact that our people regard the so-called wind of liberalization that the imperialists are advertising as a dizzy gale to destroy their stable and hopeful lives proves the ideological resoluteness of our people who established chuche. Our people who have established chuche are smashing the gale of bourgeois liberalization with the revolutionary hot wind of the red flag song, "Let us defend the red flag of revolution," which was sung during the days of anti-Japanese struggle.

Who has been lured by money and position and has deserted the red flag? Cowards, go if you want to leave. We will adhere to the red flag. This revolutionary song is still echoing all over the country.

The elderly fighters who weathered the bloody sea of the anti-Japanese struggle, the fighters who crossed the Naktong River; intellectuals, soldiers, and the new generation are shouting: We will advance along the single road of socialism, following the party forever.

Herein lies their will to become eternal companions of the party, forever sharing their fate.

For this reason, the imperialists cannot find any room to stand, no matter what they try to do to demolish our people's faith in socialism.

The chuche idea firmly guarantees the invincibility of our type of socialism, because it has made it possible to build a superior and peculiar socialist system.

A social system is a social foundation on which the people live and work. When this social system is superior, socialism can be consolidated and developed with the support of the popular masses.

A basic token of the superiority of the socialist system lies in how it puts the independent nature and aspirations of the popular masses into practice.

The socialism that realizes the independence, creativity, ideological consciousness, and collectivistic nature of human beings is the most superior socialism. To build the socialist system which realizes this independent nature, everything must be built in conformity with the aspirations of the people by establishing chuche.

Flunkeyism and dogmatism invite things contrary to the tastes of the people, whereas the establishment of chuche makes it possible to settle everything in compliance with their independent demands.

Our socialism is a peculiar socialism which has been built by embodying the chuche idea, theory, and method. Under this socialism, the political, economic, and cultural systems, and other things have been built our own way and in conformity with the intrinsic demands of human beings. There is nothing that we have blindly built.

Because it has been built by establishing chuche, our socialism has been a genuine socialism, in which everything serves the people, and has been the most vital socialism which has been constantly consolidated and developed on a firm basis of independence, self-reliance, and self-defense.

Because they have built such an independent socialism in which they are neither enslaved by nor depend on others, our people absolutely support our socialism and are attached to and take pride in it.

Our socialism enables all people to enjoy a rewarding life worthy of masters in material, cultural, and political lives. Also, it guarantees an independent and a most stable life.

Our people will not give up this socialism to anyone, and no force can separate socialism from these people.

The chuche idea has firmly turned our socialism into an invincible and ever-victorious cause. Because chuche has been solidly established since socialism took its root in history, our socialism will win victories and advance forever solely along the track of chuche. Herein lies our people's great pride in our socialism, their revolutionary optimism, and the shining future of socialism.

3. Giving full play to the superiority of our socialism while upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year address is an honorable duty assigned to our people today.

In his New Year's address, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song stressed that the shouts of victory constantly ring aloud in socialist construction.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: When the shouts of victory constantly echo in socialist construction, the antirepublic and antisocialist racket of the imperialists will be helpless; the attraction of the chuche idea will further increase; and the day of the total victory of socialism and national reunification will be expedited.

This teaching of the respected and beloved leader is an encouraging banner which gives greater faith, pride, and sense of responsibility to our people who defend socialism and give full play to its honor and dignity.

As emphasized by the great leader in his New Year's address, presently it is the sacred duty of our people to carrying out socialist construction well.

Today our people are accelerating their march of socialism amid the deep attention of the world's progressive people. For us to constantly ring out with the shouts of victorious socialism on the forefront of an acute struggle, on which we stand directly confronted with the U.S. imperialists, is to deal a heavy blow to the imperialists and reactionaries who attempt to reverse the wheel of history.

To continuously ring out with the shouts of victorious socialism, we should invariably uphold the banner of the chuche idea and more staunchly advance along the single road of chuche-oriented socialism.

Above all, it is important that all people more deeply cherish their pride and confidence in building a superior socialism under the leadership of the great party, upholding the great leader.

The most fundamental requirement of the revolutionary struggle is upholding the great leader. This is the truth which has been confirmed through a long history in which we have built our own style of socialism.

The reason why our people have come to have such a great idea to pioneer their fate as the chuche idea, why they have brilliantly embodied it generation after generation while constantly deepening and developing it, and why they have built an invincible peculiar socialism is that they have upheld the great leader [suryong] and the great leader [yongdoja].

The invincibility of our socialism is precisely the greatness of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the greatness of our glorious party center.

As they have been led by the great party and leader, our people have come to have the most correct chuche-oriented lines, shining revolutionary tradition, unprecedented single-hearted unity, and peculiar socialist system. These assets, which enable us to defend the banner of socialism while displaying the honor of our nation by being the best, are invaluable revolutionary gains which can be achieved only along the path of our socialism by which the great leadership is inherited.

When the leadership of the great leader is inherited, chuche can be established generation after generation and then, socialism can be victoriously advanced without turns and twists. This is the precious summation of the history in which our people have firmly established chuche.

Since they have heartily grasped this truth, our people uphold the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song as the great leader, regard carrying out the revolution under the leadership of the great party as the greatest pride and honor, and overflow with a firm will to make their pride and honor shine for all ages to come.

The party and the leader take good care of the revolutionary fighters and people and lead them to a hope-filled future with a resplendent wisdom. The people believe their party and leader to be their spiritual pillars and uphold them with fidelity and conscience. This single-hearted unity is the life of our socialism and the source of its eternal vitality and victory.

We should always reflect on how invaluable they are and their great unity and carefully defend, consolidate, and develop it generation after generation.

What is important in constantly winning the victories of socialism is to more deeply cherish the conviction that the road of socialism led by our party will be always victorious because it is the road of justice and truth.

Victory of socialism can be attained only by the people who fight with firm conviction in the justice and victory of their cause.

Today our people are overflowing with such conviction. The people from all walks of life believe that since the man-centered philosophy elucidates the truth and since our party's cause is the cause of justice and truth, this cause will be always victorious. This conviction grows among them.

As the intellectuals of the Korea Literary Creation House stressed in their recent letter sent to dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, the road led by dear comrade leader is justice, truth, and conscience of the people who are carrying out the revolution. Thanks to this road, the victory will be ours in the 1990's and even the 2,000's, as we are advancing by upholding the red flag of revolution.

Our intellectuals stress that since our party's cause is the cause of justice, they will totally entrust the party with their destiny, and no matter how the wind may blow, they will follow and uphold the party center with faith by linking their breath with the party's heart. Their will is the unanimous will and faith of all our people who came to have such a will and faith after being fascinated by the noble nature of the leader's cause and by the greatness of his outlook on leadership.

We firmly believe the justice and truth of our party's cause which glorified Korea by keeping the principle and truth of socialism under all circumstances and which is brilliantly leading our people's destiny and future. We should more vigorously fight to accomplish this cause overflowing with conviction and optimism.

In his New Year address, the great leader taught that the people who advance by following the flow of history will be victorious, and the people who discard truth and principle and get out of the flow of history, will advance in a different way and cannot avoid ruin. This is a lesson presently being taught to mankind by history heading for the 21st Century amid a complex struggle between progressive and reactionary people and amid a confused situation.

Such an outstanding teaching by the great leader is a brilliant teaching clearly showing where the main trend of development of history is even amid the fierce struggle between what is new and what is outdated and amid confusion.

Victory is always on the side of principle and truth of socialism and on the side where the independence of the popular masses is safeguarded.

Although the imperialists talk about the crisis of socialism, a larger number of the people realize what capitalism and socialism have brought to them respectively. The people are coming to their senses [kaksong toeda]. They now despise capitalism.

In the face of such a modern trend, the imperialists and reactionaries cannot, in actuality, hide their anxieties and worries.

Amid the main trend of development of such situation, our people more deeply cherish the pride in advancing along the road of truth—the orbit of history —and conviction in a bright hopeful future.

We should deeply study the chuche-oriented theory on the inevitability of historic development expounded by the great leader in his New Year address. Thus, we should more deeply cherish the justness of the socialist cause and conviction in victory and accelerate the march of the revolution filled with courage.

It is important, in constantly winning victories in socialism, to more firmly establish chuche in all domains by upholding the party's slogan, "Let us live our own way!"

Establishing chuche is the life of socialism and basic factor for all victories.

As was indicated by dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, we are victorious by trusting the great leader and by fighting in our way as taught by the leader, not by following the other's example and not by depending on other's merits.

We should resolve all problems with our own spirit and own strength by trusting our party and our leader, assuming the theory and method of the chuche idea as the guideline.

Our own style means the great leader's style. It also means the method and example shown by our party center in carrying out the revolution. Establishing the monolithic ideological system in the party and strengthening the party's leadership should be carried out in our own way, and mobilizing the masses by giving priority to ideological work and to the work of reforming men should be carried out also in our own way. The style and culture of life should be soundly formulated in our own way.

Self-reliance and arduous struggle carried out in our own way and accelerating the three revolutions are the most credible ways for brilliantly pioneering the road of socialism and for advancing the long path of revolution to the end.

In order for us to carry out everything in our own way, we should think only according to the idea and intention of our party and work only according to the method taught by the party. Thus, we should tenaciously defend and protect the tradition and achievements of the party. Thus, we should give better vitality to them.

We should thoroughly accomplish the brilliant socialist economic construction plans expounded by the great leader in his New Year address with lofty revolutionary spirit and vitality. This is very important for credibly winning victories in socialism.

Normalizing the production at a high level and further enhancing the material and cultural life of the people in accordance with the demand of socialism by giving priority to major sectors of national economy and by effectively utilizing the existing economic foundation are the major task we are faced this year.

When we heartily accept the party's economic construction plans and intentions and thoroughly implement them, our socialism will be further consolidated and developed.

Our lines are correct and goals are clear. Our method is also clear. The problem is how lofty revolutionary spirit is and how much vitality all party members, workers and in particular, guiding functionaries have in implementing the party's policies.

On many occasions, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song warmly taught it is a historic experience in the long revolutionary struggle that only when the revolutionary spirit and vitality are strong, can one be victorious.

The victory of socialism will be attained by those who can repay benevolence and benefits, which they received, by demonstrating loftier revolutionary spirit and vitality and who are ideologically pure and sincere, not by those who are fascinated with happiness thanks to the pistils and stamens of the flower [kkotsul] of socialism.

We must still go far on the road of revolution. With such a spirit as cherished by members of the anti-Japanese guerrilla units who fought by demonstrating a strong vitality with the belief that they would die if they did not have vitality, we must continue the arduous march.

The guiding functionaries should aggressively organize and command the new year's combat by cherishing such a strong revolutionary spirit and vitality as demonstrated by old anti-Japanese revolutionary patriots who ensured victory in combat by arming themselves with the weapons they took from the enemy when they did not have them and who fought with empty hands when their (?ammunition) ran out.

Consolidating and developing the economic management system of our own style, which embodied the chuche idea, are of great significance not only in accelerating the economic construction but also in highly demonstrating the overall superiority of socialism.

That our party opened a new chapter for socialist economic management which accords with the collective nature of socialist society is a great merit which contributed to accomplishing the communist cause.

With the creation of the Taean work system which embodies socialist economic management, together with the great Chongsanri method, a firm guarantee was provided for the popular masses to become the masters of social management under the party's leadership and to build socialism free from bureaucratism.

This year we mark the 30th anniversary of the creation of the Taean work system by our party. This work system is brilliant together with the chuche idea.

This year we should hold this work system even higher, and should thoroughly implement it so as to further glorify the achievements of the party and the leader who pioneered the new road of economic management according to the demand in building man-centered superior socialism. Thus, we should more highly demonstrate the vitality of our socialism.

The respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year address is a great revolutionary banner enabling us to accelerate our people's great socialist march movement and to expedite national reunification.

By deeply studying the great leader's New Year address and making it our own flesh and blood, we should thoroughly embody it and effect a new upsurge in socialist construction. Thus, we should repay the party's trust and expectations with practical successes.

It is our people's great pride and honor to build superior socialism by upholding the ever-victorious banner of the chuche idea. The sound of drums will more loudly echo victory in the socialist cause of our people who are advancing along the road of the chuche idea under the leadership of the great party and the leader.

South Korea

Further Government, Public Reaction to Gulf

U.S. 'Requested' Troop Dispatch

SK1601013491 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 16 Jan Dec 91

[Text] It has been learned that on 15 January the United States officially requested the ROK Government to send military troops to the Persian Gulf. On that day a high-ranking source said that "the United States has informed our government that the outbreak of war is inevitable in the Gulf region and has requested our government to send military troops there for the implementation of the UN resolution."

Accordingly, the government asked the Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD] for cooperation in the troop dispatch issue.

On the other hand, the PPD has decided to cancel a meeting with reporters originally scheduled on 16 January and to hold a joint meeting of its lawmakers and its local chapter heads at 1000 on 16 January to discuss and decide the party's position on the troop dispatch issue.

A PPD source said that the party will block at the source the presentation of a motion on the issue to the National Assembly.

U.S. Denies Request Made

SK1601014691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0127 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 16 (YONHAP)—A report that the United States has officially asked South Korea to dispatch combat troops to join the multinational forces in the Persian Gulf is "total fiction," a U.S. Embassy spokesman said Wednesday.

"There was never any such request" made of South Korea by the United States, said the official, who declined to be identified by name.

The vernacular morning daily CHOSUN ILBO reported Wednesday that the U.S. Administration had made the request, notifying Seoul that war was inevitable in the Gulf.

The South Korean Government has decided to send a 154-member military medical personnel to the U.S.-led multinational forces despite protests from the opposition parties.

Ministry Denies U.S. Made Request

SK1601055991 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0500 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Chong Ui-yong, spokesman for the ROK Foreign Ministry, said today that the United States, nor any of our allies or international organizations, has asked our government to send troops to the Persian Gulf and that the government had not examined a plan to send troops. In this way, he strongly denied the rumors that the United States had asked our country to send troops to the Persian Gulf.

Dispatch of Medical Team Supported

SK1601014491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0100 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 16 (YONHAP)—The majority of South Koreans are in favor of the government's decision to send a military medical team in support of the U.S.-led multinational forces arrayed against Iraq, according to a survey.

In a poll sponsored by the Information Ministry, 68.4 percent of 527 men and women over 19 years of age, randomly sampled Monday across the country except Cheju Island, supported the dispatch of the medical team and 27.3 percent opposed it. The survey by Korea Gallup was conducted by telephone.

The dispatch of the multinational forces based on the U.N. Security Council's decision had an approval rating of 74.4 percent and 17.9 percent objected.

Nearly 71 percent of the respondents said the South Korean economy would be seriously hurt if the oil wells in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and other Mideast countries are destroyed. Nearly 26 percent said they feared "damage to some extent," while only 2.8 percent predicted "little damage."

To the question, "are you interested in the developments in the Persian Gulf?" Gallup said 87.2 percent responded "yes" and 12.7 percent "no."

Fifty-one point seven percent of those questioned said Iraq should be punished for its illegal occupation of Kuwait to maintain international peace and order, while 40.8 percent said the crisis should be settled by the countries directly involved.

Nationals Return From Mideast

SK1601015191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0115 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 16 (YONHAP)—Some 300 South Korean nationals evacuated from the Gulf region arrived in Seoul on a chartered Korean Air jumbo jet Wednesday morning.

Flight 8021 picked up 200 Koreans in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and the rest in Amman, Jordan, before heading out of the war zone.

There were still 28 Koreans in Iraq, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday.

It identified them as 23 employees of Hyundai Construction and Engineering Co., a diplomat and a four-man television crew from Munhwa Broadcasting Co.

Choe Pong-num, Korean ambassador to Iraq and four embassy officials flew into Amman from Baghdad with eight construction workers on a Jordan airways flight Tuesday afternoon, it said.

Eighteen employees of Samsung Construction Co. left Baghdad by car early Tuesday and were expected in Jordan by Tuesday night or early Wednesday, the ministry said.

Second Evacuation Trip Pondered

SK1601031691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0217 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 16 (YONHAP)—The government has given positive consideration to sending a second chartered plane to the Middle East to evacuate some 450 Koreans who reportedly want to return, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday.

"We have learned some 450 Koreans, including 400 in Saudi Arabia, want to return," said a member of the ministry's Persian Gulf emergency committee.

"The government has positively considered an additional chartered flight to bring these people home. We expect to send the plane to the region as soon as the Koreans there complete preparations for departure," he said.

Choe Pong-num, Korea's ambassador to Iraq, who flew into Amman Tuesday afternoon, will soon go to a Korean embassy in Europe, he said.

Iraq Decries Medical Dispatch

SK1601042091 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 16 Jan 91 p 5

[Report on interview with Choe Pong-num, ROK ambassador to Iraq, by HANGUK ILBO correspondent Yi Sang-sok at the airport in Amman, Jordan on 15 January]

[Text] Choe Pong-num, ROK ambassador to Iraq, after arriving in Amman, Jordan, on 15 January, said, "Iraq complained about the ROK's dispatch of an Army medical group and demanded that it be withdrawn.

In an interview with the reporter at the Amman Airport on that day, Ambassador Choe said, "I received this complaint when I visited the Iraqi Foreign Ministry just before leaving Baghdad on 14 January." He added, "the Iraqi Government requested the ROK to reconsider the dispatch of the medical group, since it goes against the ROK Government's pro-Arab policy to date."

Ambassador Choe said , "Only 23 officers and employees of Hyundai Construction Company are remaining in Iraq to manage the equipment at seven construction sites; other Korean residents in Iraq withdrew to neighboring countries." The following is the gist of the interview with Ambassador Choe.

[Reporter Yi Sang-sok] What are the scenes in Baghdad like?

[Ambassador Choe Pong-num] I saw people standing in long lines in front of gasoline stations because of the scarcity of goods and materials, but the scenes were quiet in general. The residents are said to be leaving Baghdad to take refuge in the local area in case of U.S. air-raids.

However, the government and public offices, including the Iraqi Foreign Ministry, are expected to continue their normal business after 15 January as well.

The people in general are accepting what is told them by the government's humdrum reports, but they seem to be aware that they will lose the war if it breaks out.

[Yi] What is Baghdad's view about the possibility of war breaking out?

[Choe] I can hardly answer this question. When I talked with the Soviet ambassador to Iraq on the telephone immediately before my departure, he said that he was "still optimistic about a peaceful solution."

[Yi] What economic loss will the ROK residents and officers and employees of our businesses there suffer from withdrawal?

[Choe] I think that they will suffer very little loss. Except for a site or two, the construction projects the ROK companies worked on have nearly been completed, with the assurance that they will be paid by cash or oil. The settlement of accounts may take some time, but there will not be any considerable problems.

Prime Minister Urges Readiness

SK1601054691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0525 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 16 (YONHAP)—South Korean Prime Minister No Chae-pong, presiding over a meeting of his senior aides Wednesday, instructed all ministries to fully prepare for war in the Persian Gulf.

He ordered the ministries to minutely examine emergency measures to safeguard Korean oil supplies, tighten defense and security, intensify a national frugality campaign, work out details of implementation and report to him on what steps each ministry should take in the event of war.

"The government should be asked to show an exemplary attitude in carrying out emergency measures and persuading the people to behave themselves to suit the Gulf situation," No said.

No asked each ministry to check the attitude of its officials so they cope properly with the "unusual situation."

The government had decided to extend emergency working to all government agencies and to call a national security meeting to strengthen Korea's "water-tight" defense when war starts in the Middle East, a senior government official said.

Postal Service to Mideast Stops

SK1601073091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0703 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 16 (YONHAP)—Postal service to 11 nations in the Middle East was suspended Wednesday by South Korea after transportation to the area was cut off, officials at the Communications Ministry said.

The suspension affects mail to Saudi Arabia, Israel, Qatar, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Iran, Yemen and Oman.

There has been no postal service to Iraq or Kuwait since the invasion.

Telephone service to the same countries—except Iraq, Kuwait and Iran—has no problems yet, but if there is war a breakdown of telecommunications seems inevitable, they said.

Students Oppose Troop Dispatch

SK1601082591 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 16 Jan 91 p 19

[Excerpt] In connection with the Persian Gulf crisis, wall posters went up on university campuses simultaneously on 15 January with contents opposing the government's dispatch of an Army medical unit and the U.S. decision to wage war, with the university students staging demonstrations in protest.

The wall poster put up on the bulletin board on Seoul National University campus on 15 January with a heading "The resolution to oppose the dispatch of troops to the Persian Gulf" said, "The fundamental nature of the Persian Gulf crisis is the conflict between the Arab nationalism and the U.S.imperialism," criticizing the government that "the present regime is attempting to participate in the immoral war under the U.S. pressure."

At Sogang University campus on 15 January was a wall poster on a bulletin board which said, "We oppose, with preparedness for death, the present regime involving itself in the imperialist war of the United States." Wall posters opposing the dispatch of troops to the Persian Gulf appeared on the campuses of most of the universities in Seoul, including Yonsei University, and Songgyungwan University.

At about 1710 on 15 January, in front of the main gate of Hanyang Technical High School in Sindang-tong, Seoul, where the state-run examination for the qualification of medical doctors is held, some 30 medical college students in Seoul staged a demonstration, scattering some 100 leaflets opposing the dispatch of troops to the Gulf and were forcibly dispersed by the police who rushed to the scene in ten minutes.

In the leaflets, the students demanded that the United States find a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis, withdrawing pressure on the present regime to dispatch troops and share the cost of its troop deployment, and an immediate halt to the act of heightening tensions. The Medical Students' Association for Seoul Area held a press conference at Yonsei University on the afternoon of 15 January, and asserted, "We firmly oppose the dispatch of a medical unit which will be followed by the dispatch of the regular Army." [passage omitted]

Iraq Urged To Leave Kuwait

SK1601121791 Seoul YONHAP in English 1155 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 16 (YONHAP)—South Korea Wednesday urged Iraq to immediately withdraw its troops from Kuwait as demanded by the UN Security Council (UNSC).

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Chong Ui-yong said in a statement that it is deeply regrettable that Iraq has refused to comply with the deadline set by the UNSC resolution for the withdrawal of its troops illegally occupying Kuwait. The deadline was 2 PM Wednesday, KST.

"The Korean Government once again urges that the Iraqi Government to respect the aspiration of all the peace-loving people of the world and immediately pull out troops from Kuwait," the spokesman said in a statement.

Chong added that the Korean Government expresses its "deep respect and high tribute to the multinational forces deployed to the Gulf region for their dedicated efforts and sacrifice to restore peace and security."

Iraqi Diplomat Views Developments in Relations

SK1601021391 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 16 Jan 91 p 2

[Text] With the expiry of the UN deadline, all eyes are turned to Iraq as the world is once more on the threshold of war.

But Iraq and Korea witnessed very satisfactory developments in recent years.

Burhan K. Ghazal [as published], who has served as Iraqi charge d'affaires since late 1989, said, "The year 1989 represented the highlight of relations between the Republic of Korea and the Republic of Iraq for the upgrading of diplomatic ties to the level of embassies from the level of consulates general."

"The development continued through 1990 until the last event in our region," he retrospected, saying that he is "completely confident that this year will witness not only development in our relations but also tangible steps leading to broad cooperation."

In consideration of the fate of Korean workers in Iraq and the oil-rich country's economic significance, the Korean government took a cautious attitude in handling the Mideast situation under strong pressure from the United States, Korea's largest market, and the United Nations that helped South Korea drive back North Korea in the early 1950s.

Choe Pyong-num, who was appointed ambassador to Iraq on the establishment of full diplomatic links, left for Amman yesterday but stressed that his departure does not mean complete closure of the Baghdad mission but a temporary suspension. There are still 20-plus Koreans working for six construction projects in Iraq and one diplomat.

Ghazal told The Korea Times, "No doubt that the economic field represents the most important circle in developing cooperation between the two countries and we noticed that the Korean companies were active and achieved wide success in construction fields in Iraq."

"We think that the economic segment is an important driving force in bilateral relations towards a better stage," he went on.

The charge d'affaires assessed Seoul's diplomatic breakthroughs in socialist countries as a "wise policy which has proved by experience and effect that it is faithful in its speculations and aims."

"That is because the Republic of Korea has gained many friends all over the world and through various regimes and the consequences of the right direction and the benefits gained by it will involved not only the Republic of Korea but the whole Korean peninsula in addition to East Asia in general."

Terming negotiation as the "best" way to solve problems involving others, he said that prime ministers' talks which have been held between South and North Korea are a positive approach to peace and further peaceful reunification of the divided peninsula.

"I am sure that the prime ministers' meetings are a positive step which has positive consequences towards the unification of the Korean peninsula and its people because negotiation is the best means to reach fruitful results and any stop in such negotiation means to be isolated.

"We see that the prime ministers' meeting is the right way to achieve better steps towards the common benefits of the Korean people in the South and the North," he added.

Students Try To Deliver Letter to U.S. Embassy

SK1601004891 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 15 Jan 91 p 15

[Text] Nine university students belonging to the Seoul District Federation of General Student Councils [Sochongnyon] were taken to the police station at around 1630 [0730] on 14 January when they tried to deliver a letter of protest to the American Embassy located at Sejong-no, Chongno-ku, Seoul, opposing the dispatch of a ROK military medical team to the Persian Gulf.

Daily Examines 'Misunderstandings' With U.S.

SK1501134191 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 15 Jan 91 p 2

[Article by political desk reporter Song Yong-sung from the "Reporter's Memobook" column: "What is the United States to Us?"]

[Text] What is the United States to us? This is a question I have often thought of in recent months regarding ROK-U.S. relations.

Until just a few years ago, the United States had been regarded as an ally that always grants us something unilaterally.

Nowadays, however, it appears to be the opposite—a creditor who keeps asking for something from us.

In fact, the United States appears to constantly ask for something from us whenever it opens up its mouth. It has asked us to shoulder our share of defense expenditures and to provide the Korean laborers employed by U.S. forces stationed in Korea with salaries. It also asked our country how much we can set aside for our share of defense expenditures in the Persian Gulf. As long as money is concerned, the United States plays the role of a creditor well.

This may be the reason why our people see the United States in a different, but not so friendly light. It may be due to such views that the anti-U.S. movement, which erupted in some corners of our society not long ago, is seemingly expanding its base beyond expectation.

The problems do not stop there. Even the U.S. view of our country has become far more critical and it seems to be increasingly more serious.

Vice Foreign Minister Yu Chong-ha, senior member of our side's delegation to the ninth round of ROK-U.S. economic consultative meeting held on 14 January, showed an excitement in his face after concluding its first session.

"Today, the U.S. side disclosed its misunderstandings about us, in a strong tone. The two sides have considerable gaps in mutual understanding and it will be very difficult job to narrow them," he said.

It was an unprecedentedly candid briefing. Given the customary comments on such meetings by the diplomats who would say "we had a serious discussion," his comment was more than enough to guess in what atmosphere the talks were held.

The basic tenor of our side in the current economic consultative talks was to dissipate the misunderstandings the United States harbors for us.

Now, what are the seeds of the misunderstandings. It may be a combination of many things such as the U.S. frustration over its sluggish economic performance, the Korean Government's clumsy approach to ROK-U.S. trade issues, and U.S. displeasure over the rapidly developing relations between Korea and the Soviet Union.

Upon such an analysis, we find it necessary to reflect on ourselves as to how we view the United States.

In fact, we are in a chaotic state when it comes to our perception of the United States. It is either regarded, merely and unilaterally, as a lasting ally that has signed a treaty of mutual defense with our country or, reversely, as a country that is responsible for our country's division or as a target to reject. Recently, the United States has also been perceived to be a ringleader of the Uruguay Round negotiators tormenting our farmers.

Such perceptions of the United States, which remain disorderly without being coldly filtered, seem to have worked to complicate relations between Korea and the United States.

The government is now emphasizing the importance of our relations with the United States, perhaps out of consideration to make up for it. No sooner had he been appointed than the new Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok explained that "ROK-U.S. relations are the base of our diplomacy." One of the close associates of President No has been appointed as Korean ambassador to the United States.

Also, the government has decided to broadly accept U.S. demands in negotiations to head off trade feuds. It may well be called a reversal.

In turn, this kind of attitude is feared to once again give rise to voices criticizing that Korea is giving too much attention to diplomacy toward the United States and is hurting the national self-esteem diplomatic policy.

This means that ROK-U.S. relations have become very complicated. Accordingly, the yardsticks to measure national interests are no longer as simple as they once were. It is about time for us to collect our thoughts and stand firm.

Unification Board Publishes Travel Guide to North

SK1601034991 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 14 Jan 91 p 2

[Text] As North-South exchanges, such as soccer games and music festivals for reunification, have been vitalized with the reunification circumstances changing on the Korean Peninsula, the Board of Unification published on 14 January a "Guide to North Korea" for visitors.

Unlike the former government publications, this guide published under the name of the Central Consultative Council for National Reunification describe North Korean realities without any ideological interpretation and can be used as a substantial reference book by travelers.

This handbook in 250 pages has a general introduction of North Korean politics, economy, society, culture, and art; North Korea's family system and wedding and funeral customs; and travelogues by those who have visited the North. Terms in North Korean dictionaries are cited in this book. Also, pictorials of major areas are included in the book.

For example, the book in its chapter on transportation illustrates that there are city buses, caterpillars, cabs, and a subway in Pyongyang; the basic taxi fare is 4.50 won with one won added per km (two won at night); and it costs approximately $150-$300 to visit areas outside Pyongyang depending on the distance.

In revealing that "20,000 copies of the 'Guide to North Korea' were initially published," an official of the Board of Unification said that "Copies will be distributed first to overseas Koreans who visit North Korea and to South Korean residents who have applied for their trip to North Korea and later to those who are interested in North Korea on a step-by-step basis."

Greater Public Access to Items on North Allowed

SK1601023491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0159 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 16 (YONHAP)—The National Unification Board (NUB) is to allow increased public access to materials on North Korea and establish a publicity coordination panel to broaden the public's consensus on unification.

While reviving Red Cross talks with Pyongyang on reunions of separated families, the government will seek North Korean participation in Seoul-Beijing and Seoul-Moscow economic cooperation projects.

National Unification Minister Choe Ho-chung, in a new year policy briefing to President No Tae-u, said Wednesday the board will set up a new ministerial conference comprising heads of unification-related offices and a unification policy publicity coordination committee of field experts.

In readying for active contact and improving ties by both South and North Korea with neighboring countries, the year's key efforts will be on reaching agreements with

Pyongyang and expanding cross-border exchanges, preparing for anticipated changes in the regional political climate, combatting Pyongyang's propaganda, and allowing greater access to materials on North Korea and Seoul's policy on inter-Korean issues, Choe said.

As part of the widened access, the government will show North Korean movies twice a month instead of only once, he said.

Internationally, Seoul will complete the groundwork for a South-North Korean summit through diplomatic support from neighboring nations such as the Soviet Union and China, Choe said, and the government will draw up full-scale measures to prepare for the summit.

Seoul will seek to continue the inter-Korean prime ministers' talks and concentrate on reaching three agreements—cross transportation, cross communication and cross trade—he said.

The board will also develop the ideal form of political, economic, social and cultural reunification through careful evaluation of North Korean affairs, he said.

Seoul and Pyongyang have been inching closer in recent months through a series of premiers' meetings begun in September last year.

No official agreements have emerged from the three rounds of meetings, however, and a fourth round is scheduled in Pyongyang next month.

The only cross-border reunion of families separated by the fratricidal 1950-1953 Korean war took place in 1985, when the two sides exchanged 151-member groups, and in the five years since they have been unable to agree on a second reunion.

No Urges Addressing Human Rights With North

SK1601034791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0254 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 16 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea must address human rights issues with North Korea and shine the international spotlight on them so that Pyongyang cannot but seek openness and democratization, President No Tae-u said Wednesday.

"We shall no longer be taken in by North Korean strategies or sit back in passivity, but respond from an aggressive and leading position," he said.

After a new year policy briefing by National Unification Minister Choe Ho-chung, No also ordered a study of the German unification process and preparation of an interministerial plan suited to the Korean situation.

"Allow greater access to North Korean materials, and find ways to encourage research on Pyongyang," he said. "Devise a detailed way to use the 25 billion-won South-North Korean cooperation fund."

It is time to discuss human rights conditions in North Korea and demand that Pyongyang allow at least minimal freedom, No said.

National unification efforts will bear fruit when a steady government policy, full approval of the people and international support converge into a singular force, the president said.

Meaningful steps, he said, were taken in 1990, such as the inter-Korean premiers' talks, friendship soccer matches and joint concerts, and the new year should see more people and more goods crossing the border than ever before.

South Korea should be careful of North Korean moves to overcome its internal difficulties and pressures to open up its society by ignoring the issues and attempting to stir confusion and weaken South Korea, he said.

Bulgarian Envoy Talks of North, Kim Chong-il

SK1601010691 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 16 Jan 91 p 2

[By staff reporter Kim Hye-won]

[Text] Kim Chong-il, the eldest son of North Korean President Kim Il-song, was often described by some foreigners as a sex maniac and a merciless murderer. They would claim that he was leading an extremely luxurious life. A Japanese journalist reported years ago that Kim had four mansions in Pyongyang, nine plush villas in the countryside and a collection of 30 sedans and sports cars.

But in the memory of a Bulgarian who attended Kim Il-song University in Pyongyang along with him in the 1950s and 1960s, the No. 2 man in North Korea was no more than an ordinary student who "loved to talk with friends," especially foreigners.

"He was not as arrogant as many sons of high-ranking officials of Bulgaria and as I remember, he didn't drink at that time," recollected Georgi Mitov, Bulgaria's charge d'affaires in Seoul yesterday.

In an interview with this paper, Mitov said that when Kim visited him at his dormitory, he usually walked to the building, getting out of a sedan on a nearby street.

Kim came to see the Bulgarian so often that the latter sometimes had to pretend as if he were out.

The North Korean seemed to like Mitov, especially as the tall foreigner was a famous volleyball player.

Mitov said he was studying Korean history at Kim Il-song University, the first Bulgarian to study in Pyongyang, and Kim was a student of economics.

After returning to Sofia in 1963, he joined the foreign service.

His earlier connection with Pyongyang made him a third secretary at the Bulgarian Embassy in the North Korean city in 1966.

But being a diplomat in Pyongyang was totally different from being a classmate of Kim Chong-il. While working for three years in Pyongyang until 1969, Mitov did not have chances to meet Kim.

Mitov went back to North Korea in 1973 as a second secretary at the Bulgarian Embassy. He later served as charge d'affaires.

This time, he had a brief chance to see Kim Chong-il, when a high-ranking Chinese official arrived in Pyongyang by train from Beijing. Kim was there to welcome the visitor and Mitov, then charge d'affaires, was also there.

Kim Chong-il, however, left quickly apparently to avoid meeting him. Mitov is still wondering why Kim shunned him at that time. He added that Kim did not meet with other foreigners in Pyongyang at that time.

Mitov's work in Pyongyang did not go smoothly.

After confrontations with North Korean officials on several occasions, he decided to leave Pyongyang in 1975, two years before his tenure expired.

But the diplomat would not explain in detail the problems he had with the North Koreans at that time, saying that to do so may only escalate tensions between the two Koreas.

He said he would reveal not only these stories but also many other "interesting" episodes involving his college days in Pyongyang with Kim Chong-il after Korea's unification.

His bad memories of Pyongyang made him decide not to return to North Korea any more. He later worked in Pakistan and the Soviet Union.

Mitov, however, is now back in Korea, but this time on the southern side of the DMZ.

"I am so lucky to be the first Bulgarian diplomat residing here. It is good that Bulgaria now has relations with 42 million South Koreans as well as 21 million North Koreans," he said.

Seoul and Sofia opened diplomatic relations March 31 of last year. Kim Pyong-il, a half brother of Kim Chong-il, now serves as north Korean ambassador to Sofia.

Kim Pyong-il was ambassador to Budapest in 1988 when South Korea and Hungary announced an exchange of permanent missions. Kim was recalled to Pyongyang in protest at that time and was later assigned to Sofia.

Mitov said he met Kim Pyong-il several times in Sofia on diplomatic occasions. He looks much like his brother Chong-il though they had different mothers.

Mitov said the North Korean government did not file protests with Bulgaria when it established diplomatic relations with South Korea. His government informed Kim Pyong-il of the decision in advance.

But Kim apparently did not have any prior knowledge when Hungary and South Korea set up formal relations, he said.

* Kim Il-song's Health, Lifestyle Reported

912C0060 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 5 Dec 90 p 13

[Article by reporter Kim Kuk-hu]

[Text] Despite his old age of 78, North Korean President Kim Il-song is demonstrating his dynamic energy by making frequent local inspection tours, meeting foreign delegations, and making long speeches. Since a photo showing him being helped by someone holding his arms during his birthday celebration in April was made public, there was for awhile an unusual concern about the condition of his health. However, subsequently he held talks with former Japanese Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru in September and also met with the South Korean delegation attending the second round of inter-Korean high-level talks in October, thereby showing that he is still in good shape. Below we will examine everything about the secrets of his health, including the activities of his "Geriatric Research Institute," his favorite diet, and his activities in his villas.

Health Condition

When former Japanese Deputy Prime Minister Kanemaru and his company visited the Myohyangsan guesthouse for talks with Kim Il-song, the latter welcomed the visitors at the entrance hall in such an energetic way that it belied his old age.

According to the South Korean delegation which met Kim Il-song during the second round of high-level inter-Korean talks which opened in Pyongyang on 18 October, he looked brimming over with energy, although his complexion looked somewhat darker and he seemed to be swaying somewhat when he walked, maybe because of his weight.

His back was straight and his voice seemed a little husky, but he looked sturdily healthy.

The wen on the back of his neck looked a little darker than his complexion, and its size was as large as the fist of an ordinary adult. His face had a lot of blotches as is often the case with the aged.

Kim Il-song visited Beijing in 1983 for the treatment of his degenerative arthritis [osteoarthritis] in his knees and of his heart disease. These days, as the aging process progresses more conspicuously, he is getting hard of hearing in his right ear and often asks his secretaries to repeat what they have said. So, reportedly he is doing his utmost to slow down the aging process by watching his weight and receiving physical therapy.

Geriatric Research Institute

Inside the Red Cross hospital in Pyongyang, there is a geriatric research institute called "Ponghwa Health Research Institute," under the "Committee for the Longevity of Kim Il-song and His Son." The institute was inaugurated in 1974 and has been expanded on a large scale.

When the institute started in secret with several of the best physicians in North Korea, the scale was small. But now it has the highest medical authorities in the North in each branch, its research staff totaling over 1,000, including physiologists.

This institute has many branches set up in many scenic places across North Korea.

Different staff members specialize in different parts of the body, such as the lung, liver, stomach, and brain, to study the geriatric diseases, such as prostatitis and hearing impairment, from which Kim Il-song is suffering. They analyze the organic functions and metabolism of each organ of the body and study ways to stall Kim Il-song's aging process and promote his health.

The institute strictly selects for each department 20 to 30 people over 80 years old who have a physical constitution similar to Kim Il-song's. It analyzes the contents of the food they have eaten during their whole lives, and collects materials concerning the ingredients of their diet, as well as their living environments, which have a bearing on long life.

When the collection of data is completed, these people are admitted to the local branches of the institute scattered around the country on a long-term basis.

In the branches regular tests are conducted to measure the effects of the living environments and nourishment on long life, to study the foremost "secret of longevity", and to file periodic reports on the findings to the institute in Pyongyang.

Drawing the conclusion that the secret of Yugoslav President Tito (who died at the age of 88) was his life in his villa located in a place 400 to 500 meters above sea level, the institute is operating the "Kim Il-song villas" set up in scenic places with surroundings similar to Tito's villa.

In February 1987 the institute dispatched a seven-man Kim Il-song University research team to a mountainous town in Smolyan, Bulgaria, and a Caucasus area in the Soviet Union to study for a period of one month the secrets of long life. The Bulgarian town, known as a community with the world's highest rate of longevity, is situated 320 kilometers south of Sofia, the capital city, and has 53 centenarians per 100,000 of population with the Caucasian community having 49 centenarians per 100,000 people.

According to Dr. (Khadzhikhristov), chief of the Department of Internal Medicine at (Smolyan) National Hospital, who was interviewed by a CHUNGANG ILBO reporter at that time, the North Korean scholars concentrated their survey on the following factors which are regarded as constituting the secrets of the long life of the local inhabitants: the optimum yearly average temperature of eight degrees, with a relatively mild winter thanks to the nearby Aegean Sea; strenuous physical exercise from childhood; their temperament of taking things easy and not getting irritated; the regularity of their life with no fixed holidays; their preference of milk and other dairy products, soy beans, and potatoes over meat as their staple food; their continence from drinking and smoking; and their life-style largely in harmony with nature, such as the wearing of clothes made of natural fiber.

Reportedly, the institute is also operating in Kim Il-song's presidential palace his private health clinic which was set up with high-cost, high-technology medical equipment imported from Japan and Germany.

Diet

Kim Il-song's dining room is thoroughly controlled by the Geriatric Research Institute, and whatever foodstuffs are regarded as having even slightly ill effects on health are eliminated from the menu.

The foods served on the table are mostly pollution-free products grown on "Kim Il-song's private farm."

Wild vegetables grown in high mountainous areas are served on the table after a rigid inspection.

Fresh fish consumed by President Kim Il-song and his son are supplied by a special production group called the "specialty shop."

The "specialty shop" set up in the Nampo Fishery Office, the largest in North Korea, is under the control of the Presidential Palace Security Office (equivalent to the presidential security force in South Korea).

Working in this office are a total of 45 persons consisting of 35 fishermen, one physician, and nine inspectors. Their pay is 30 to 50 percent higher than the pay for those working in other fishery offices. They supply high-grade fish, such as sea bass, trout, mackerel pike, and gray mullet, to the presidential palace.

The items Kim Il-song himself is boasting of as an elixir are wild ginseng porridge and kimchi.

Kim Il-song also eats what they call "sweet meat" (dog meat) prepared in a dozen different ways; and according to his former associates who defected to the South, he has an appetite no less voracious than that of the young.

A giant with a height of 180 centimeters and a weight of 90 kilograms, Kim Il-song was once fond of ginseng wine and swills it "by the bowl." He likes cold noodles and often eats wild animal meat, such as pheasant, roe deer, venison, and wild boar instead of beef, pork, chicken, or duck meat.

As far as beef is concerned, the lean meat of the short ribs from a calf raised in a mountainous area is occasionally served. More than 300 wild ginseng roots are offered to the president a year from various parts of North Korea. Of these, only those which are over 500 years old and which have elegant shapes are selected to make porridge.

Kim Il-song drinks about 4 glasses of wine. He started smoking when he was 60, but quit on his 75th birthday at the advice of his physicians. This is indicative of his concern for his own health.

Life in the Villas

Kim Il-song has more than 80 private resorts in Pyongyang and in other scenic places throughout North Korea.

Each year he spends time in his villas in the Mt Paektu area, Yanggang, Chagang and North Hamghyong Provinces, beginning in late July through early September. During this period he conducts his on-the-spot guidance (field inspection).

According to North Korean broadcasts and newspaper reports, this year Kim Il-song gave on-the-spot guidance in Yanggang Province from late July through early August and in North Hamgyong Province from early August through 3 September.

Reportedly at work in these villas in which Kim Il-song is fond of staying are a combined total of more than 3,000 female caretakers, and fully armed guards are in place in the surrounding areas.

These female caretakers serve tea, entertain visitors, and are charged with guard duty while living in the villas.

Their age averages 20, and their height is over 165 centimeters. They have had high school education or higher, particularly in those schools known for the excellent family backgrounds and personal appearances of their students.

Reportedly, among them there are quite a few "happy groups" made up of those who have strikingly fair skin, nice figures, and artistic talents.

The role of "happy groups" is to contribute to the rejuvenation of Kim Il-song through singing, dancing, and massaging.

Their selection and training falls within the jurisdiction of the security office of the presidential palace which is in charge of the security protection of Kim Il-song. Kim Il-song, who is rather obese, takes a bath relatively often, and a "happy group" helps him with the bath, washing and massaging his body.

Kim Il-song's bedrooms in his rest houses or guest houses across the country are built exactly 500 meters above sea level. Where each part of his body touches the bed, medicinal materials good for health are imbedded.

Daily Schedule

Despite his age, Kim Il-song is very active, almost daily receiving foreign delegates, delivering speeches, making a local inspection tour (markedly less often of late), or attending some event and a reception.

An examination of Kim Il-song's activities this year shows that he has received foreign delegations on more than 100 occasions.

On 25 November he attended the reception held at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall honoring the 40th anniversary of the Chinese People's Volunteers' entry into the Korean war, and afterward received the 43-man Chinese delegation and held a long talk with it. On the preceding day, 24 November, he received Yun I-sang, a Korean musician residing in Germany.

Particularly on 9 November he was present at six events all together, including his attendance at the central report meeting marking the 45th founding anniversary of the party; meetings with various foreign delegations, such as a Laotian Government delegation, and the Japanese Socialist Party delegation led by Chairwoman Takako Doi; his talk with Yoshidori Yasei, former chairman of the JSP [Japanese Socialist Party] Korean Affairs Committee; and the audience given to the guests who came to extend greetings to him on the occasion of the party's 45th founding anniversary.

He meets with a foreign delegation nearly once every two or three days or once every five or six days.

His longest speech this year was the 75-minute high-pitched policy speech to the first session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly on 24 May.

According to experts on North Korean affairs, Kim Il-song was physically very active while engaging in guerrilla activity in Manchuria in his youth, but for the past 45 years since liberation, he has not had enough exercise because he moved around by car and seldom walked.

The only exercise he likes is hunting by jeep in the hunting grounds in his resort areas.

Even this hunting has slowed down because of his age and poor eyesight, and he is said to be making up for the lack of exercise with a light stroll.

As the secrets of his health, experts cite his diet centering on natural food, his approximately one-hour-long siesta after lunch, and the rest he takes at the foot of the mountain.

Soviet Official Arrives With Economic Delegation

SK1601120991 Seoul YONHAP in English 1144 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 16 (YONHAP)—Soviet First Deputy Prime Minister Yuriy Maslyukov arrived in Seoul Wednesday leading a Soviet economic delegation to discuss Korean-Soviet economic cooperation with Korean officials on Thursday and Friday.

The Soviet delegation will discuss with Korean officials, led by Kim Chong-in, senior presidential secretary for economic affairs, details of economic cooperation.

Maslyukov will convey Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's message concerning bilateral economic cooperation when he pays a courtesy call on President No Tae-u on Friday, it was learned.

Maslyukov will also meet with Deputy Prime Minister Yi Sung-yun and high-ranking officials of the Foreign Ministry and pertinent economic ministries to seek ways to deepen cooperative ties between Korea and the Soviet Union based on agreements made in the first official economic talks in Moscow last August and in the summit in December. Seoul and Moscow estaablished diplomatic relations on Sept. 30 last year.

The cost of cooperation is believed to be between 2.5 billion and 3.5 billion U.S. dollars, but there are major differences on the amount of cash loans and their use.

After the talks, the Soviet officials are scheduled to visit industrial complexes in the industrial cities of Pohang, Ulsan and Kumi.

The Soviet delegates include Electronic Minister V. G. Kolesnikov, GOSPROM (National Gas Co.) Chairman V.

C. Chernomyrdin, Federal Chamber of Commerce Chairman V. L. Malkevich, Deputy External Minister A. I. Kachanov, Deputy Fisheries Minister V. M. Lushnikov and Deputy Atomic Energy Minister Y. I. Tychkov.

Export-Import Bank To Open Office in Moscow

SK1601013791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0122 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 16 (YONHAP)—The Soviet Central Bank has authorized the Export-Import Bank of Korea to open a representative office in Moscow, a spokesman for the South Korean bank said Wednesday.

The Moscow office, to be opened in the first half, will inquire into the financial status of importers in Moscow and arrange tied-loans to the Soviet bank, he said.

Plans for Korean Trade Center in Moscow Viewed

SK1601022991 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 16 Jan 91 p 8

[Text] Yi Son-ki, president of the Korea Trade Promotion Corporation, will lead a handful of Korean enterprises in the building of a Korea-USSR Trade Center in downtown Moscow, the state-run company said yesterday.

Construction of the trade center was agreed upon in December last year, when President No Tae-u visited the Soviet Union.

In the first place, 10 Korean enterprises, mostly large-sized ones, will take part in the project but the doors will remain open for small-sized companies and province-based firms to participate, officials said.

A working-level team will be sent to the Soviet Union in February to consult building sites, the officials said.

Among the Korean companies involved are Lucky-Goldstar, Pohang Iron and Steel Co., Daewoo, Samsung, Hyosung, Kolon, Samwhan, Sunkyong, Lotte Department Store and Korea Telecom.

Overseas Travel Falls Short of Expectations

SK1601055891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0529 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 16 (YONHAP)—Fewer South Koreans than expected traveled abroad in 1990, the second year after a ban on travel to foreign countries was completely lifted.

Just 1.561 million Koreans went abroad last year, up only 28.7 percent over 1989 and falling just short of the government's modest projection of 1.6 million people, according to statistics released by the Transportation Ministry Wednesday.

The year-on-year increase was 67.3 percent in 1989.

Per capita spending fell 6 percent to 2,017 U.S. dollars in 1990 from 2,145 dollars the year before and total expenditure was 3.149 billion dollars.

A lack of curiosity in the outside world coupled with signs of economic recession caused the lower growth rate, local analysts said.

An austerity campaign had little effect as it failed to penetrate public indifference, though there was some outcry against excessive consumption, they said.

Meanwhile, visitors to the country rose 8.5 percent to 2.96 million and spent 3.515 billion dollars in Korea, off 1.2 percent.

The tourism surplus of 366 million dollars was a surprise to industry specialists, who expected a deficit for the year.

According to the ministry, however, the surplus will dwindle and in the long run be replaced by a deficit as the number of Koreans going abroad grows at a slow but stable pace.

Brunei

Oil Output Increases During Gulf Crisis

BK1601075691 Hong Kong AFP in English 1209 GMT 15 Jan 91

[Text] Bandar Seri Begawan, Jan 15 (AFP)—Brunei produced an extra 700,000 barrels of oil last year as a result of higher production to meet market demand after Iraq invaded Kuwait in August, a Brunei Shell petroleum company official said.

George Innes, the managing director, told Brunei Shell employees Friday that about 2,000 barrels were produced daily in addition to the average daily production of 150,000 barrels per day (bpd) forecast for the year.

A copy of Mr. Innes's remarks made at the company's long service awards dinner in the oil-town of Seria, about 100 kilometres (65 miles) from here, was obtained by AFP Tuesday.

He said that an additional six tanker loads of liquefied natural gas were also delivered to customers in Japan last year. Brunei sold 153 tanker loads of natural gas to Japan during the year.

Brunei's oil production hit an all-time high of 250,000 bpd in 1980 but the government, which has the majority interest in both the oil and gas industries, introduced a gradual conservation limit that took production down to 150,000 bpd in 1990.

Brunei produces "sweet crude" which needs little refining. Eighty per cent of the crude oil is sold to contract buyers and the rest is sold on the spot market or to contract buyers after taking into consideration local needs.

Brunei Shell is the sole oil producer in the oil-rich sultanate.

Malaysia

1991 Growth Projection Scaled Down to 7.8 Percent

BK1501103491 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0939 GMT 15 Jan 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan 15 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia's growth projection for 1991 has been scaled down to 7.8 percent from an earlier forecast of eight percent, after taking into consideration uncertainties posed by the current Gulf crisis, Finance Minister Daim Zainuddin said Tuesday [15 January].

However, Daim added that the growth rate for last year has been revised upwards to 9.5 percent—the highest growth since 1976—from an estimate of 9.4 percent announced when he presented the 1991 budget last month.

While the economy was expected to grow at a slower pace this year, he noted that the 1991 projection was still a conservative figure which took into consideration the uncertainties posed by the crisis in the Middle East.

"What we are certain is that this year's rate of growth will not be as high as last year, but nevertheless will still be at a respectable rate," he told newsmen after opening the sixth meeting of the advisory committee of the International Savings Banks Institute and the meeting of the institute's members in the Asia-Pacific region here.

Daim said even if a war broke out in the Gulf, the Malaysian economy would not be adversely affected this year.

He said the impressive 9.5 percent growth rate recorded in 1990 was spearheaded by the manufacturing and construction sectors which saw significant growth.

Singapore

27 Students Return Home From Middle East 14 Jan

BK1501154491 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 15 Jan 91 p 8

[By Koh Joh Ting]

[Excerpt] Twenty-seven Singaporean Muslim students flew home on the last Singapore Airlines [SIA] flight from the Middle East yesterday afternoon.

The students, who were studying at Cairo's famed Al-Azhar University, were among the 233 passengers on board SIA flight SQ 23 from the Egyptian capital.

The plane started from Amsterdam and stopped over in Vienna and Cairo before arriving in Singapore at 2:30 p.m.

The students said they returned home on the advice of their families and Singapore's ambassador to Egypt, Dr. Chiang Hai Ding. [passage omitted]

Daily Explains Need for Action Against Saddam

BK1501112991 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 15 Jan 91 p 28

[Editorial: "All Right, Since He Wants War"]

[Text] There come moments in the history of men when the only real choices are the hard choices. The situation in the Gulf today is one such moment; indeed, not since World War II has there been a clearer, simpler and more brutal moment of truth setting apart the right from the wrong and urging action on the upholders of justice to resist the unjust. No one in the anti-Iraqi coalition desires war. It is mischievous, and not particularly clever, to suggest that a war-hungry United States is keen on a military reply to President Saddam Husayn's invasion of Kuwait in order to destroy Iraq, install itself as the fulcrum of a new regional security order and simultaneously give the military-industrial complex back home a short in the recession-deadened arm. With the effective disappearance of the Soviet Union as a rival superpower, the U.S. would have been more than comfortable in a Middle East where the local status quo held—had it not been for President Saddam's obscene attempt to subvert that local order. The U.S. intervention in the Gulf is thus a result, and not the cause, of Iraqi aggressiveness.

Another argument is that the economic sanctions against Iraq should be given more time to bite. But, apart from the fact that such sanctions become increasingly porous as time goes on, the UN Security Council decided on a more stringent course—the possible use of military force by the international community—should Iraq not vacate Kuwait by Jan 15. Discussions of economic sanctions are, therefore, quite academic. Some respond to this by arguing that the UN has become captive to US policy. This, however, is to say everything and say nothing. While it is true that the US, as befits a superpower, has taken the lead in challenging Iraq, other countries have agreed to Washington's overall objectives of their own free volition. Thus, the conflict over Kuwait is not one between Iraq and the US. It is not a conspiracy by Christianity and Zionism to deprive Muslims of their fair share of world power. There are no Vietnams involved, because by no stretch of the ideological imagination can Iraq be turned into a small Third World society resisting Western imperialism. The conflict is between an imperial Iraq itself and the international community, represented by the UN, responding to aggression.

The fundamental issue is that in the five-and-a-half months since the Iraqi army entered Kuwait, the rest of the world has made one attempt after another to make Baghdad see reason. That has failed, the last attempt being UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's trip to Baghdad. This is not surprising: dictators have no time for diplomats. There is a clear mandate from the UN to use military force against Iraq. That mandate should be carried out. Given the inevitable fragility of any coalition of countries with differing ideas of how to achieve even a common goal, it is not advisable to delay carrying out the mandate.

The US is a superpower; it should behave like one, that is, take tough but necessary decisions. These decisions may be criticised by some countries; it is likely, however, that the very same countries will secretly applaud Washington for having taken those decisions. No doubt there will also be pockets of public opinion in the US, and generally in the West, that will call for peace or caution or magnanimity—synonyms for fearful inaction in times of war. Difficult as it is to ignore these in a democracy, they will have to be ignored. Pacifists are wrong to draw warning parallels with Vietnam, but they ironically reveal one legitimate point of comparison. The US defeat in Vietnam was as much the result of a failure of will in Washington—because of the pressure of public opinion in America—as the result of reverses on the battlefield. That failure of will must not be repeated by the US leadership today. Once World War II began, there was no question of appeasing Adolf Hitler; similarly, there is no question today of appeasing an Iraqi threat that is of a kind with the Nazi challenge to civilisation. The battle is necessary; let it be joined.

Government Lifts Entry Ban on Former CPM Member

BK1601045091 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0413 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Singapore, Jan 16 (OANA-BERNAMA)—The Singapore Government has revoked a 25-year entry ban on a former senior member of the Communist Party of Malaya (CPM) so that he can live with his daughters here.

The decision to allow Eu Chooi Yip, 72, to enter Singapore on a dependant pass was made on compassionate grounds, the Home Affairs Ministry said in a statement.

Eu, who was born in Malaysia, has been staying in China since 1967, a year after he was banned from entering Singapore.

The statement says: "In view of Eu's age, the Internal Security Department [ISD] has advised that he may be allowed to enter Singapore, provided he severs all organisational ties with the CPM and its political wings, whether in Singapore or elsewhere, and abjures political activities."

"Eu has confirmed in writing that he has accepted them (the conditions), and has given the government an undertaking that he will not engage in any political activity in Singapore, nor do anything that will embarrass the Singapore Government in its relations with Indonesia and Malaysia," the statement adds.

Eu was once a top-ranking CPM member operating in Singapore and Malaysia in the 1950s. The ISD will interview Eu on his return to Singapore to satisfy itself that he is not a security threat to the republic.

The statement says that if Eu breaches the conditions set by the government, his dependant pass will be cancelled and he will be asked to leave the country.

Eu, who graduated from Raffles College with a first class honours degree in economics, was a former classmate of former Deputy Prime Minister Dr. Goh Keng Swee, who was instrumental in getting the ban lifted.

Cambodia

Khmer Rouge Condemned for 'Abominable Deceit'

BK1501035491 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 14 Jan 91

[Station commentary: "The Pol Pot Clique's Abominable Deceit"]

[Text] During the past few months, the genocidal clique has launched abominable propaganda campaigns to fool national and international public opinion. As soon as it joined the Supreme National Council [SNC] membership, the Pol Pot clique began propagating its so-called establishment of village and commune national councils. It has even boasted that provincial and municipal national councils have been set up in some towns, such as Phnom Penh, Battambang, Siem Reap, and Kompong Cham.

From this propaganda, people who have never visited the Land of Angkor would think that the Pol Pot clique is now controlling almost the entire country. But the fact is that until now, the Pol Pot clique remains a gang of bandits who can only sneak into outlying localities to rob, kill, and cause trouble to our people.

Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said in Bangkok in August that the Pol Pot clique could not enter, seize, nor control any important areas in Cambodia. Recently, Sue Downie, a Western correspondent, stressed that the Pol Pot clique would not be able to return through military means, but it might be able to do so through political means.

Therefore, the clique's deceitful propaganda about the establishment of village and commune national councils and its victories is just to attract attention and prevent itself from being excluded from the solution.

Moreover, the Pol Pot clique has tried hard to persuade our people and particularly the Cambodian People's Armed Forces which are opposing its return, to desert their villages and units and join its community, claiming to have given all kinds of rights and freedoms to everyone.

However, the clique has forgotten that all surviving Cambodians suffered under its genocidal regime. Under that wicked Pol Pot regime, there were no rights to live as humans, let alone the right to freedom of speech. It even killed babies in cradles mercilessly, fetuses in mothers' wombs, and old people. During the past 12 years, although it has collapsed and fled to take refuge in a foreign land, the clique has not abandoned its vicious and savage nature. It continues to commit the same old crimes which it committed during its rule of three years, eight months, and 20 days against the people in a number of refugee camps under its control.

Many international organizations, particularly humanitarian organizations personnel working in Cambodian refugee camps along the Cambodian-Thai border, used to condemn the Pol Pot clique for pressuring the refugees under its control and even voiced their support for the establishment of a neutral refugee camp on Thai soil.

Last February, the international council of the volunteer agencies and representative of the WFTU [World Federation of Trade Unions] strongly condemned Pol Pot's genocidal crimes and demanded that measures be taken to prevent the recurrance of this wicked regime.

Moreover, while robbing the people in outlying areas and ambushing cars and trains, the Pol Pot clique always showed its extreme barbarity and cruelty. Our people, young and old and male and female alike, have all been indiscriminately tortured and massacred by the clique. Are all these the so-called rights and freedoms under the Pol Pot regime?

Briefly speaking, all the abominable propaganda campaigns launched by the Pol Pot clique will only fool a handful of people who were close to and misled by the clique during its rule of three years, eight months, and 20 days.

As for the Cambodian people whose families or relatives were killed by the Pol Pot clique, they will never fall for its deceit. Moreover, our people are enhancing their vigilance and making every effort to prevent the return of the Pol Pot clique in whatever form.

Our people call on peace- and justice-loving countries in the world to set up an international tribunal similar to the Nuremberg Tribunal in order to try the ringleaders of the Pol Pot clique for their genocidal crimes in Cambodia.

Our people will not let the history of 1975 repeat itself.

Radio: Pol Pot Accomplices Should Pay for Crimes

BK1601074391 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 15 Jan 91

[Station commentary: "Those Who Should Be Dragged Out for Trial Before the Court of Justice"]

[Text] Recently, the other Cambodian side absurdly demanded that the ringleaders of the Pol Pot clique and the government leaders of the State of Cambodia should be tried for their genocidal crimes in Cambodia.

It is known to all that the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan clique and a number of its close followers are the criminals who committed genocidal acts, while the leaders in the State of Cambodia Government and the Cambodian people throughout the country are the victims of genocide committed by those elements.

Why are they so stupid as to demand that the victims be tried together with the criminals? They might want to take revenge on the State of Cambodia Government and Cambodian people who toppled the Pol Pot clique 12 years ago and who have barred the attempt to bring that cruel regime back to power in Cambodia.

Everyone still remembers well that while the Pol Pot clique was massacring and torturing the Cambodian people from 1975 to 1978, leaders of the Son Sann and Sihanouk groups, selfishly living a luxurious life abroad, turned a blind eye to the suffering of our people and let them die in a most tragic way. Such an act is tantamount to colluding with the criminals in killing their own nation. History and the souls of the victims cannot pardon such an act.

If the leaders of the State of Cambodia Government did not dissociate themselves from the Pol Pot clique and turn against it, thus toppling it on 7 January 1979, no one knows what the fate of the Cambodian nation would have been. Are those who rose up and toppled the criminal Pol Pot clique its accomplices?

In mid-August 1979, our new regime opened the people's tribunal to try the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique for its genocidal crimes. The trial was held before hundreds of witnesses and a number of foreign lawyers. The Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique was then sentenced to death.

Pursuant to the spirit of the 1948 convention on the prevention of the genocidal crimes, the leaders of the State of Cambodia Government have issued an appeal to the peace- and justice-loving countries across the world to send the two convicts to the Cambodian people to try them through the court of justice. But not only have the Son Sann and Sihanouk groups and the countries backing them failed to arrest and send them to us for punishment, they have helped, defended, and hid the culprits.

During the past 12 years, although international public opinion has kept demanding that the ringleaders of the genocidal Pol Pot clique be sent to trial before the International Court of Justice in The Hague and an international tribunal similar to the Nuremberg Tribunal, the Sihanouk and Son Sann groups do not care about it.

On the contrary, they have colluded even more closely with the clique politically, militarily, and diplomatically. They have not paid any attention to the appeal of the international council of the volunteer agencies that criminal Pol Pot be sent to trial before the International Court of Justice at The Hague. Worse still, they have ignored a declaration by [name indistinct], leader of the Australian opposition party [words indistinct] would bring the case of Pol Pot and other leaders of the Pol Pot clique to trial by the International Court of Justice.

At every international forum, Samdech Sihanouk and Son Sann made every effort to defend the genocidal Pol Pot clique. They have even refused to put the word genocide in any official document, let alone punish those culprits. Militarily, the Sihanouk and Son Sann groups have assisted the Pol Pot forces in robbing and massacring our people in outlying areas. Whenever they entered a village or commune, the Son Sann and Sihanouk groups committed cruel crimes similar to the Pol Pot clique. Moreover, they have given some of their foreign aid to the Pol Pot clique to give it strength for renewing its massacre against the Cambodian people. They have always opposed any initiative that mentions the prevention of the genocidal Pol Pot clique. This is why they have loudly voiced their support for the draft peace plan of the United Nations dated 26 November last year, because this draft did not mention the prevention of the genocidal regime's return or the words genocidal clique.

During the past 12 years, the Sihanouk and Son Sann groups have harmoniously colluded and stood shoulder-to-shoulder with criminals Pol Pot, Ieng Sary, and Khieu Samphan. Their association with these hooligans have caused them to become wild and ferocious and to see the leaders of the State of Cambodia, who have genuinely and resolutely opposed these criminals, as the ones who should be tried by the court.

The Cambodian people are Buddhist followers. They know well what is good and what is bad. The first persons who must be brought for trial before the court of justice are the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan leaders and their close followers. As for those who have colluded with, protected, and assisted the criminals during the past 12 years, they must also be brought before the court for their offenses in attempting to defend the criminals.

We think that they should [words indistinct]. In addition to the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary gang which had already been sentenced to death by the Cambodian People's Tribunal, those who have colluded with the clique will also be sentenced by our people through their ballots in a free, just, and equal election in Cambodia. That is the inviolable right to self-determination of our people.

Opposition's 'Pretext' on SRV Presence Viewed

BK1401054991 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 13 Jan 91

[Station commentary: "The Forgotten Pretexts"]

[Text] Lately, the other Cambodian groups persuaded each other to dig out the long forgotten pretexts from the dustbin and ballyhooed about to alarm and get the people's attention.

Both Samdech Sihanouk and Son Sann have repeatedly echoed the genocidal Pol Pot clique's clamor about Vietnam sending its troops back to Cambodia and Vietnamization in Cambodia.

Everyone still remembers well that during the past 12 years, Vietnam was the only pretext that the Pol Pot clique and its allies had used for concealing their perfidious schemes in returning to massacre the Cambodian people again.

Using Vietnam as a pretext, the Pol Pot clique and its allies have been conducting a civil war in Cambodia for the past more than 12 years, causing tragic suffering and losses of lives and property to our people who have just emerged from the genocidal regime's abyss.

During the past 12 years, they regarded our people's schools, roads, hospitals, bridges, drainage pipes, cars, trains, rice fields, and ox carts as belonging to Vietnam. Thus, they burned these things down, planted mines to destroy them, and fired at people's houses whenever possible.

Although the State of Cambodia's Government has been elected by the Cambodian people freely and fairly since 1981, the Pol Pot clique and its allies and those countries behind them have used Vietnam as a pretext in calling the State of Cambodia an illegal government. Meanwhile, they claimed that their phantom government—whose members were forcibly put together—formed on foreign land without being seen and voted for by any Cambodian people, as being legitimate .

On 26 September 1989 when the last batch of Vietnamese volunteer troops returned home before the eyes of nearly 500 international observers and foreign journalists, the Pol Pot clique and its allies were both happy and worried. They were happy because their long-awaited strategic chance had come. They thus began to launch a large-scale offensive against people's villages adjacent to the Cambodian-Thai border to rob the people and seize a foothold.

However, having been defeated and worn down by our Cambodian People's Armed Forces and our people on the other side of the border, they have turned to clamor about Vietnam leaving thousands of troops in Cambodia. Moreover, the internationally accepted absence of the Vietnamese troops from Cambodia has greatly alarmed them because they no longer have any pretext to conceal their schemes. Despite this, the Pol Pot clique and its allies have tried hard to dig out old excuses and have fabricated many new ones to fool the others.

Talking about the Pol Pot clique, it is just a gang of barbarians without any religious belief. How about Samdech Sihanouk and Son Sann, who claim to be devout Buddhists? Why have they told such groundless lies?

During the past 12 years, both Samdech Sihanouk and Son Sann have never set foot on Cambodian soil and have been living abroad. They, therefore, have been repeating everything the Pol Pot clique has said, though they did not see or hear it for themselves. If they do not speak about the forgotten pretexts, what else can they use to justify their schemes to bring back the genocidal Pol Pot clique to massacre our Cambodian people again?

On Vietnamese immigrants, they are staying not only in Cambodia but in many other countries of the world. Why aren't those countries afraid of being colonized by Vietnam?

In Cambodia, the current population of Vietnamese immigrants is still much less than during Sihanouk's era. Concerning this matter, In Tam, former commander in chief of Sihanouk's army who had visited the motherland and the Cambodian-Vietnamese border in Takeo and Kompong Cham Provinces and his hometown, stressed clearly that the border marker has not been altered and there is only a small number of Vietnamese immigrants. The largest numbers of the immigrants are Chinese. Why aren't they afraid of the Chinese annexing Cambodian territory?

For this reason, there is no need for them to smear the Cambodian people so as to create pretexts for massacring them. Our people are well aware of the tricks used by the Pol Pot clique and its allies. Our people pledge to attack, frustrate, and smash all these tricks.

As Lord Buddha's disciples, we speak only the truth and facts.

Commentary Says Pol Pot Clique Untrustworthy

BK1301113791 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 12 Jan 91

[Station commentary: "The Cambodian People Cannot Trust the Pol Pot Clique and Its Allies"]

[Text] To date, the problem of preventing the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime remains a crucial and hot issue in the settlement of the Cambodian problem. Lately, with a view toward reaching an early national reconciliation, the Government of the State of Cambodia [SOC] has made many major concessions to the other side, such as the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops from Cambodia when a significant quantity of military aid continued to flow in for the other Cambodian side. Along with this, despite the fact that the SOC has almost controlled the country and people, the SOC Government has agreed to give half of the seats in the Supreme National Council [SNC] to the other side; in particular, it has allowed Khieu Samphan and Son Sen to represent archbutcher Pol Pot in the SNC as well. The concessions previously made by the SOC were immense, and this was confirmed on 25 February 1990 by Kraisak Chunhawan, the son and adviser of Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan, who said that the Hun Sen government's acceptance of the United Nations' role as proposed by Australia and its agreement on the creation of the SNC have already been considerable concessions. Indeed, the other Cambodian side has taken advantage of our goodwill and concessions to jump at a bargain. They have ceaselessly voiced their demands and have even attempted to ask us to commit suicide and to again put our people's lives through the trials of the genocidal Pol Pot clique's hypocritical policy.

We want it made clear that Sihanouk and Son Sann as well as their backers can trust Pol Pot as much as they wish, but the victimized Cambodian people can never believe in the gang no matter what. People still well remember that at the end of 1979, to improve the image of Democratic Kampuchea, Pol Pot pretended to announce his stepping down and handed over the prime minister post to Khieu Samphan. However, he has kept his position as the commander in chief of the National Army of the DK [Democratic Kampuchea], which is the position most responsible for the shedding of Cambodian people's blood. Later, Pol Pot announced his retirement and named himself chairman of the so-called Institute for Research on Cambodia's National Defense. By all appearances, Pol Pot is still Pol Pot, and in the third quarter of 1990, Pol Pot summoned his army commanders to plan the execution of his rusting-away strategy. As such, activities carried out by both Khieu Samphan and Son Sen are the actions of Pol Pot, the ringleader of the entire genocidal Polpotist regime.

Over the past three years, Khieu Samphan, employed by Pol Pot as his pawn, has striven by all possible means to block the negotiations process to find a way out for the Cambodian problem by using his veto right in every arena. This has irritated Roland Dumas, French foreign minister and cochairman of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia, and caused the latter to point his finger at Khieu Samphan because of his stubbornness.

Lately, taking advantage of the name of the SNC, which should have been fully set up in Jakarta on 10 September 1990, the Polpotist clique incited its gang to inventively create the so-called village and communal national councils to replace our people's state authority in a number of remote villages and communes. The true nature of this action is to depose the people's state authority and prop up its groups whose hands are stained with the people's blood. The Polpotist clique's policy has not only remained unchanged but has become more and more cruel and savage. This issue has successively been raised by several papers in the West. In May last year, the Asia Watch human rights group strongly denounced the Khmer Rouge Polpotists for oppressing Cambodian refugees living in refugee camps under their control along the Cambodian-Thai border. The organization revealed that the Khmer Rouge Polpotists had not allowed for providing food relief and medical treatment to those who defied their orders to fight against the SOC armed forces. The human rights group further said that the Khmer Rouge had employed children to carry weapons to their armed units, had forced inmates to carry out hard labor, and had sent civilians to war zones. International humanitarian organizations working in Cambodian refugee camps along the Cambodian-Thai border have recently complained that the Pol Pot clique has barred them from controlling the distribution of food in the camps under their control.

This is clear evidence that the Khmer Rouge are living on the periphery of the other people's territory and are surviving with outside aid. The Khmer Rouge Polpotists are not relinquishing their cruel, savage, despotic, and close-door policy implemented between 1975 and 1979. That being the case, if they are allowed to have a role to play in the Cambodian settlement, to what level will their brutal actions reach? Can the factions of Sihanouk and Son Sann hold them in check? And who then will be their real victims? Isn't it the innocent Cambodian people who will cetainly become their victims? At present, Pol Pot and his allies are taking the over one million Cambodian people for Vietnamese immigrants, the over 100,000 village and communal militiamen for Vietnamese experts, and the over 40,000 troops of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces for Vietnamese soldiers, and all of these are the targets of their destruction. In the event that power is once again in their hands, how many people will be eliminated? The experience in 1975 has reminded us that before the 17 April 1975 victory, the Polpotist clique tried and condemned only seven individuals in the Lon Nol regime, but during the period of only three years, eight months, and 20 days they killed over three million people. By all appearances, the Cambodian people can in no way trust Pol Pot and his allies. They earnestly request that every settlement must stipulate well-defined measures to avoid the monstrous regime.

Hungarian President Sends National Day Greetings

BK1501152091 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 15 Jan 91

[Text] On the occasion of the State of Cambodia's National Day, Comrade Heng Samrin, chairman of the Cambodian State Council, received a message of greetings from Comrade Arpad Goncz, president of the Republic of Hungary.

The message read: Your Excellency, please accept my best wishes. May you have good health and new, still greater successes in the implementation of your assiduous task for the sake of Cambodia's glory and the Cambodian people's well-being.

Czechoslovak Leaders Greet 7 Jan National Day

BK1401132491 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1110 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK January 14— Cambodian party and state leaders have received greetings from their Czechoslovak counterparts on the 12th National Day of the State of Cambodia (January 7).

In his message to President of the State Council Heng Samrin, Vaclav Havel, president of the Federal Republic of Czechoslovakia [FRCS], said: "I am firmly convinced that in the near future a fair and reasonable solution to the Cambodian conflict will be reached thanks to the contributions of the international community in the interests of the Cambodian people's prosperity and happiness."

A message from Alexander Dubcek, chairman of the Federal National Assembly of the FRCS, to Chea Sim, chairman of the National Assembly of the State of Cambodia, said: "I honestly wish Cambodia an early political solution to the conflict, development, and happiness."

Another message signed by Marian Calfa, prime minister of the FRCS, and addressed to Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia, said: "I would like to wish you success in the search for a just and peaceful settlement of the Cambodian problem.

Say Phuthang Chairs Party Control Work Meeting

BK1301123291 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 13 Jan 91

[Text] On the morning of 12 January at the central political school, a ceremony was held to open the fifth meeting to sum up the party control work nationwide under the chairmanship of Comrade Say Phuthang, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of State, and chairman of the party Central Committee's Control Commission. Also taking part were comrades representing central and regional party committees, the party Central Committee's military committee, and many representatives from various provinces and municipalities.

Speaking on this occasion, Comrade Say Phuthang said this fifth recapitulative meeting of the party control work is taking place in a situation in which the entire party, armed forces, and people are heightening the fighting spirit to basically overcome the test full of complexities and difficulties and maintain the all-round situation following the complete repatriation of Vietnamese volunteer troops from Cambodia. Comrade Say Phuthang called on members of the meeting to do their best to discuss and debate issues, deploy a lofty spirit of responsibility toward the party, be courageous in expanding democracy, and dare to speak frankly and truthfully about the situation concerning party members' obedience to the party's charter and discipline and state laws. In particular, shorthcomings and negative points should be overcome to avoid influencing the people and masses in a bad way. This is in order to achieve the tasks assigned by the party and state.

Heng Samrin Attends Closing

BK1501063591 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 15 Jan 91

[Text] A ceremony to close the fifth national meeting on party control work was held on the afternoon of 14 January at the Central Political School under the chairmanship of Comrade Heng Samrin, secretary general of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State of the State of Cambodia.

During the three-day meeting, the participants attentively listened to a report summing up party control work throughout the country in 1990 read by Comrade Mat Ly, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chaiman of the party Central Committee's Control Commission. The participants enthusiastically discussed the task targets for implementation in 1991 and exchanged good experiences with one another so as to effectively implement the party control work in their respective localities.

The participants also listened to a plan on publicizing the spirit of the meeting to be carried out by their regional party committees. The plan was read by Comrade El Vansarat, member of the party Central Committee and of the Control Commission.

On the same occasion, Comrade Secretary General Heng Samrin informed the participants of the all-around progress made by the State of Cambodia following the total withdrawal of the Vietnamese volunteer troops. He also highly valued the activities and achievements made by the provincial and municipal party committees in 1990. The comrade chairman of the Council of State also called on party control committees at all levels and each cadre in charge of party control work to make more efforts in studying and training so as to enhance their revolutionary ethics, all-around knowledge, and particularly their skills in the theory of party control work.

Moreover, party control cadres must be thoroughly honest and loyal to the party, respect the principles of democratic centralism, and be determined to fight all inactive phenomena. Particularly, they must understand and strictly implement the party statute, all the decisions of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, and all directives of the party Central Committee's Control Commission, so as to render themselves worthy of being the chief of staff for the party committee in the party building work at this new stage.

Heng Samrin Attends Opening of Theater in Takeo

BK1201123491 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1102 GMT 12 Jan 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK January 12—A theatre hall named Kouk Thlork in Takeo Province, 90 km from Phnom Penh to the south, was commissioned recently in the presence of party General Secretary Heng Samrin, who was then on a tour of the province to attend a pipal tree planting ceremony.

The 370-seat hall was built by the provincial authorities with contributions from the local people. The construction, which was completed in late December last year, cost 21 million riels (Cambodian currency).

Nguon Nhel Visits Hospital in Battambang

BK1401063191 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 14 Jan 91

[Text] On 12 January, a joint delegation of various ministries led by Comrade Nguon Nhel, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and agriculture minister, visited and presented gifts to hospitalized cadres and combatants at the "19 June" Hospital in Battambang Province.

On that occasion, Comrade Nguon Nhel praised and highly valued the efforts made by the hospital leaders and all doctors. He expressed his hope and conviction that hospital leaders and all doctors would further make all-out efforts, physically and mentally, in giving better treatment to our cadres and combatants so that they get well soon.

The delegation personally visited and expressed deep gratitude, love, and respect to all hospitalized cadres and combatants there. Comrade Nguyen Nhel also conveyed the best regards and wishes from Comrade General Secretary Heng Samrin and other party-state leaders to these cadres and combatants.

On the same day, in the afternoon, the delegation visited and presented gifts to the commanders of the 5th Military Region and front-line cadres and combatants in Banteay Meanchey Province.

'Pressure' Promised if Sihanouk-Led SNC Refused

BK1501045291 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 14 Jan 91

[Station commentary: "The Cambodian People Only Want a Supreme National Council Headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk; They Do Not Want the Vietnamese Aggressor Administration"]

[Text] According to the Jakarta joint communique dated 10 September 1990 on the establishment of the Supreme National Council [SNC] with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as its chairman, the SNC is the sole legitimate organization of Cambodia representing the Cambodian nation and people both at home and internationally, and symbolizes Cambodia's national independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and unity.

The establishment of the SNC headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk has been welcomed by the international community and the entire Cambodian people.

The whole international community, particularly the UN Security Council [UNSC], and the entire United Nations, through the UNSC's Resolution No. 668/1990 and the UN General Assembly's Resolution No. 45/3, have approved and fully supports the establishment of the SNC based on the document of the five permanent members of the UNSC dated 28 August 1990.

As for Cambodian people both at home and abroad, following the setting up of the SNC, they have joyfully welcomed and warmly supported it, hoping that the SNC headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk will become the sole legitimate state organization in Cambodia, that there will be no other organization aside from this SNC, and that Cambodia will achieve genuine national reconciliation without discrimination so that peace, security, and stability will be restored to Cambodia.

The Cambodian people demand that both the Cambodian national resistance forces and the Phnom Penh party accept and respect this SNC headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, and that the Vietnamese administration be eliminated.

In reality, however, although the tripartite Cambodian resistance forces have fully accepted and respect the SNC headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and fully accept the 28 August document of the five UNSC members, the Jakarta document dated 10 September 1990, UNSC Resolution No. 668/1990, and the detailed document dated 26 November of the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC] and the five UNSC permanent members, Vietnam and its lackeys—puppets Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim—have rejected these documents and the SNC headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk.

They have persisted in their demands and have launched all kinds of schemes in order to maintain the Vietnamese aggressor administration in Cambodia to serve the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia. They have demanded the expulsion and dissolution of various persons and groups. This act is totally against the spirit of the Jakarta joint communique, national reconciliation, and great national union.

Such an act has greatly enraged the Cambodian people in general, particularly the people in the country and all the Cambodian soldiers, militiamen, and administrative officials at all levels who have been forced to serve the Vietnamese. They have come to realize that Vietnam and its puppets do not want to end their war of aggression in Cambodia and that it still wants to occupy Cambodia. They do not want Vietnam to annex and turn the present Cambodia into another Kampuchea Kraom. They do not want the Vietnamese aggressor administration. Therefore, they have been uniting into great national union forces and are joining hands with the Cambodian national resistance forces in attacking and dismantling the Vietnamese administrative networks in villages and communes and setting up village and commune national councils to replace them in many localities.

This clearly shows that the Cambodian people do not accept the traitorous puppet regime, a Vietnamese lackey. They want only an SNC which is headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk so that genuine national reconciliation, peace, security, and independence will be restored.

If Vietnam and its puppet lackeys stubbornly refuse to respect and implement the establishment of this SNC, the Cambodian people and the Cambodian national resistance forces will continue working with the international community in putting all-round pressure on Vietnam until it agrees to respect and implement the Jakarta document on the establishment of the SNC headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, the framework document dated 28 August 1990 of the five UNSC permanent members, and the detailed document dated 26 November 1990 of the PICC cochairmen and the five UNSC permanent members.

VONADK on Trail Built From SRV to Lumphat

BK1201072691 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 11 Jan 91

["Report on the Vietnamese Enemy Aggressors Secretly Building a Trail From Vietnam to Cambodia With the Aim of Continuing To Occupy the Country"]

[Excerpt] The Vietnamese enemy aggressors and traitorous puppets Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim have recently colluded with each other in secretly building a trail from Route 19 in Vietnam through O Tang and O Leav to Lumphat District, Ratanakiri Province, Cambodia.

The objective of building the trail is to continue to ship more and more Vietnamese invading troops and a huge quantity of all kinds of ammunition to Cambodia. This has been done in keeping with the strategy of the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and the Vietnamese traitorous lackey puppets Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim, who remain stubborn in carrying out gambits to destroy the 28 August 1990 document of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, the Jakarta 10 September joint statement naming Samdech Norodom Sihanouk chairman of the Supreme National Council, UN Resolution 668/90, the 26 November 1990 peace plan jointly worked out by the five UN Security Council permanent members and the Paris conference cochairmen, and the 23 December 1990 joint statement in Paris. [passage omitted]

Indonesia

Security Increases in Light of Gulf Crisis

Embassy in Jordan on Alert

BK1601020691 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0000 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] The Indonesian Embassy [KBRI] in Amman Jordan, has been on a full alert for the past two days as the 15 January deadline—0500 GMT West Indonesian Time today—for Iraqi troops to withdraw from Kuwait draws closer.

Sumario Suriokusomo, the Indonesian ambassador to Jordan, said KBRI has arranged for emergency security measures for all its staff in the event of a Gulf war. He said Jordan cannot escape the war if Iraq attacks Israel. According to Sumario Suriokusomo, the KBRI in Kuwait had been emptied quite some time ago. The KBRI in Baghdad had also been closed down but it is now occupied by three Indonesian students who have refused to leave Iraq and three Iraqi embassy workers.

In the meantime, the KBRI in Cairo has set up various security measures on 10 January. A 24-hour information center, manned by embassy staff working on rotation was set up. They are monitoring news broadcasts on the Gulf crisis so that immediate steps could be taken if a war erupts.

According to the head of the KBRI information section in Cairo, if a Gulf war breaks out it is possible that it would spread to Egypt. He said KBRI had advised all Indonesian nationals to gather at the KBRI. Apart from that, KBRI in Cairo is ready to take in Indonesian nationals in the Middle East whenever necessary.

No Evacuation Plans in Saudi Arabia

BK1601134991 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Excerpt] The Indonesian Embassy in Saudi Arabia has no evacuation plans for Indonesian nationals in the country but has advised workers to follow instructions issued by their respective managers or employers should war breaks out in the Gulf. Irawan Abidin, deputy chief of mission of the Republic of Indonesia in Saudi Arabia, said in Jeddah today that the Indonesian Embassy had since last August drawn up permament procedures that should be known by every Indonesian national in Saudi Arabia in the face of threats of war. This included a directive on how to use masks to protect them from chemical weapons. He advised them to remain calm if war broke out in the Gulf but to be on alert by following the widely circulated instructions.

Reports from Saudi Arabia said that many Indonesian workers in the eastern part of Saudi Arabia such as in the cities of al-Dammam, al-Khobar, and Dhahran had followed their employers to safer places in the western part of the country. [passage omitted]

Minister on Workers' Safety

BK1601014291 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0000 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] In view of the escalating Gulf crisis, Minister of Manpower Kosmas Batubara has called on Indonesian nationals, especially the families of Indonesian workers in the Middle East not to be unduly worried. He told the Radio of the Republic of Indonesia [RRI] that he is confident that Indonesian workers are safe, bearing in mind that the Saudi Arabian Government is committed to protecting the workers the way it protects its own nationals if a Gulf war breaks out.

According to Minister Kosmas Batubara, the Government and the Indonesian embassy [KBRI] in Saudi Arabia will provide detailed infomation on the crisis to all workers so that they will not be restless. They are advised to contact information centers set up by KBRI if they face any problem . To date there are about 100,000 Indonesian workers in Saudi Arabia.

Iraqi Ambassador Says Indonesia May Send Envoys

BK1601134191 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1026 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 16 (OANA/ANTARA)—In recent exchanges with President Suharto, Iraqi Ambassador to Indonesia Zaki 'Abd al- Hamid al-Hubba has made known that Indonesia may send envoys to Iraq, Minister/State Secretary Murdiono disclosed.

In connection with the current Gulf crisis, President Suharto has said Iraq's position would be stronger in demanding a settlement to the Palestinian problem and other problems in the Middle East, if it withdrew its troops from Kuwait in accordance with the resolution of the United Nations.

The president's view, which was made known last week in a talk with Iraqi ambassador to Indonesia Zaki 'Abd al-Hamid al-Hubba, was disclosed to the press by Minister/State Secretary Murdiono at the Merdeka Palace on Tuesday.

In his meeting with the press on Tuesday, Murdiono was announcing the postponement of Czechoslovak Prime Minister Marian Calfa's visit to Indonesia which had been scheduled for January 16-18. He said the postponement was due to the current conflict in Lithuania in the Soviet Union.

According to Murdiono, President Suharto had asked for the presence of the Iraqi ambassador so that he might know the view of President Saddam Husayn's government on the settlement of the Gulf crisis and also make known Indonesia's own view on the matter.

Iraqi troops invaded Kuwait on August 2, 1990, and till now still occupies that country. The UN Security Council afterward issued a resolution setting January 15 as the time limit for Iraq to withdraw its toops.

Iraq might as well comply to the UN resolution. Afterward other issues including Iraq's view on the settlement of the Palestinian problem can be discussed peacefully. As the president saw it if Iraq withdrew from Kuwait its position to achieve a peaceful solution would be stronger, Murdiono said.

The president also noted that Iraq had always abided by the resolutions of the United Nations.

Iraq may understandably say why after all its obedience to UN resolutions the Palestinian question has not been resolved, Murdiono said quoting President Suharto's explanations to the Iraqi ambassador.

In the exchanges with President Suharto which occurred two times, Ambassador Zaki 'Abd al-Hamid al-Hubba said Indonesia may send envoys.

Asked what steps Indonesia would take if Iraq refused to pull out its troops and war erupted, Murdiono said the government had analysed various possibilities including the break of war with all its impacts.

If war erupts, we hope to be able to press down to the maximum all the possible effects, he said.

He said the government had also considered the possible effects of war in the Gulf on President Suharto's visit to India scheduled for January 25-27. The president had been invited to attend India's independence day celebrations on January 26.

Muslim Group Issues Statement on Gulf Stance

BK1501102091 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0853 GMT 15 Jan 91

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 15 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Indonesia's largest Islamic socioeducational organisation, Muhammadiyah, has called on the government to avoid taking sides in the Gulf crisis, saying it might harm the country's long-term interests.

The group said in a statement that it was not necessary for Indonesia to take sides as the Gulf crisis was multidimensional in nature, involving economic, political, ideological, and military interests of other countries.

It called on Muslims and Indonesian citizens to pray for a just solution to the crisis that will not involve war.

The organisation was founded over 70 years ago. Its main activities cover education, health care, and child protection.

They called on Indonesian Muslims not to be provoked by emotional agitations for any reasons, including "a battle for the sake of Palestine and Arabs in general."

The group said that a war in the Gulf should be seen as a "battle of ambitions" between persons or groups, and not as something motivated by religion.

Group leader Dr. Nurkholis Majid said a Gulf war would give Israel an excuse to expand into Arab territory. He claimed there were fanatical groups in Israel wanting to control the world, especially West Asia.

"The Israelis are waiting for Saddam Husayn to make a wrong move which in turn will give them the excuse to fulfill their own ambitions," he said.

The group called on the multinational forces lead by the United States to control themselves and not to initiate war.

They also urged President Saddam Husayn to withdraw Iraqi troops from Kuwait for the sake of Muslims and Palestine.

Delegations of Muslim students from Yogyakarta have separately delivered resolutions to the U.S. Embassy here calling for evasion of war in the Gulf region.

Suharto Stresses Importance of Election Quality

BK1601080191 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] President Suharto has stressed the importance of the quality of a general election in which members of the House of Representatives and regional houses of representatives are to be elected. Speaking to 80 executive members of the Indonesian National Youth Committee [KNPI] at the Bina Graha Presidential Office in Jakarta this morning, the head of state said that if the House of Representatives and regional houses of representatives were of poor quality, this would in turn affect the quality of the People's Consultative Assembly. Because of this, the quality of a general election must be given due attention. This implies that the quality of sociopolitical forces—two political parties and the Functional Group [Golkar]—taking part in a general election must duly be given equal attention.

On ideas to change the electoral system from the present one using a list of candidates to a district electoral system, President Suharto said that this was possible, but he added that the present and future conditions should be taken into account. Will the system produce quality members of the House of Representatives and regional houses of representatives? We must also think whether the system will guarantee a consensus through consultations. President Suharto reiterated that the present electoral system using a list of candidates is manifested in a consensus through consultations.

President Suharto also informed the KNPI Executive Board of inputs for the forthcoming Broad Outlines of the State Policy. He said that such inputs should not necessarily come from the president who holds an executive mandate from the People's Consultative Assembly but from sociopolitical forces as well.

Suharto Assures No Influence of People's Assembly

BK1601112991 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0955 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 16 (OANA-ANTRA) - No one, not even the president or the Armed Forces, can force his or its own will on the People's Consultative Assembly (MPR) so that MPR will have to continously elect the same person as its mandatory, President Suharto firmly stated here Wednesday [16 January].

When meeting the new Executive Board members of the Indonesian National Youth Committee (KNPI), the president further said: I, for example, do not have any strength to threaten the MPR so they will choose me again as its mandatory, especially when I am getting old and absent-minded.

According to the 1945 Constitution, he explained, the MPR holds a plenary session once every five years to elect a president and a vice president.

And how many times a president can be reelected does not depend on the president himself but on the MPR, he reminded during the dialogue which mostly was colored by issues concerning the 1992 general elections (pemilu).

In the country's pemilu, voters elect 400 politicians for the 500 seat-House of Representatives (DPR). The remaining seats are reserved for the Armed Forces (ABRI) which gets automatic representation as its members do not go to the polls.

The 500 politicians elected to the DPR will join a further group of 500 government appointees from various circles to form the MPR.

On the quality of the MPR, he said it largely depended on the quality of its members and the quality of the decisions it turned out.

This means, all the pemilu contestants, the Moslem United Development Party (PPP), the ruling Functional Group

(Golkar), and the Indonesian Democratic Party (PDI) must always try to produce capable cadres.

The head of state also told the KNPI Executive Board members that it was not true that all MPR decisions were produced as a result of pressure from the mandatory.

A head of state, he went on, only provides inputs to the MPR and it has every right to accept or to refuse them while there is also a possibility that they make their own decisions on, for example, the formulation of the guidelines of state policy (GBHN).

President Suharto underscored as well the importance of political education so there would be no one going to the polls casting blank votes anymore.

I have instructed the information minister to further promote political education so that in the 1992 pemilu, there will be no "golput" [blank group] anymore, he said.

Golput is a popular term used to describe those refusing to choose any of the three contestants for fear that it will not change anything in the country's political structure.

Minister Says State Oil Prices 'High Enough'

BK1201080891 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0731 GMT 12 Jan 91

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 12 (OANA-ANTARA)—The average price of Indonesian oil in January 1991 was 25.10 U.S. dollar per barrel, while from March last year to January 1991 22.89 U.S. dollar per barrel, Indonesian Mines and Energy Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita said here Saturday. He also said that the price was high enough since the benchmark in the state budget was only 16.50 U.S. dollar per barrel.

After meeting the head of state to report oil price developments and electricity energy supply in the country he said the price of minas crude for January was 25.48 U.S. dollar per barrel.

It was lower than the price in the international market in the last few days as it was set before the failure of the talks to settle the Gulf crisis between U.S. Secretary of State James A. Baker and Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz, he explained.

Following the failure of the Geneva talks between the two countries the price of oil in the international market had soared to more than 30 U.S. dollar per barrel.

In January this year, he went on, Indonesia's oil production was noted at 1.52 million barrel while condensate 180,000 barrel.

On electricity supply, he said scarcity would still prevail in the coming few years.

The state electricity company (PLN) previously predicted that in the first year of the current Pelita V (fifth five year development plan, 1989-94), electricity demand would increase by 15.3 percent.

Later it was found out that the demand increased by no less than 17 percent, he said adding in anticipation of a continuously increasing demand in the future the government had decided to let private companies take part in the efforts to provide electricity as well.

So far, about 30 private companies have showed their interests in the sector, he added.

Minister Urges New Japanese Energy Cooperation

OW1201012891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0019 GMT 12 Jan 91

[Text] Jakarta, Jan. 11 KYODO—Indonesian Minister of Mines and Energy Ginandjar Kartasasmita said Friday Indonesia and Japan should prepare a new energy cooperation formula in the future.

The new arrangement should cover not only gas but also other energy sources such as coal, Ginandjar said after pinning a "Satya Lencana Pembangunan" (development) medal on the president of Japan's Chubu Electric Power Co., Saburo Matsunaga.

The medal was the first awarded to a foreign businessman. Matsunaga received the honor for his "outstanding contributions" to the development of Indonesia, especially through his firm's gas imports.

Ginandjar noted that, besides gas, Indonesia possesses other energy sources, namely coal, adding that for the sake of both countries, cooperation should be expanded in the energy field.

Chubu electric has purchased oil from Indonesia since 1966. In 1990, 56 percent of the total 30.51 barrels of crude oil imports came from Indonesia. It is the biggest purchaser of Indonesian natural gas.

Since its first purchase of natural gas in 1977 Chubu has imported a total of 41.50 million tons of liquefied natural gas until December 1990. The contract covering the purchases was signed in 1973.

State Firm Awards Oil Exploration Contracts

BK1101133491 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0858 GMT 11 Jan 91

[Text] Jakarta, January 11 (OANA-ANTARA)—The country's crude oil and condensate at present is reaching the production capacity of around 1.7 million bpd [barrel per day] as several new refineries owned by Pertamina's [state oil corporation] production sharing contractors have begun to be fully operational, Minister of Mines and Energy Ginanjar Kartasasmita said here Friday.

After witnessing the signing of three new contracts and contract extensions with the state oil company's production sharing contractors, he also said, the 1.7 million bpd production capacity was similar to that in the '70s.

However, Indonesia will not fully make use of its production capacity and it still maintains the current production rate of 1.5 million bpd, he said.

"Such a policy is adopted so that when all OPEC members decide to return to their original quota, Indonesia will not have to drastically cut its production rate," he said.

The minister also expressed the hope that some Pertamina's production snaring contractors, which during the Gulf crisis increase their production sharply, would be willing to reduce it when the crisis was over.

Indonesia's quota, according to OPEC, is 1.374 million bpd. The Indonesian Government would try to adopt a fair policy in arranging the production rate reduction of Pertamina's production sharing contractors so that the contractors would not ruin their working mechanism, he said.

Saudi Arabia, the minister went on, at present must have increased its production rate by at least 46 percent above its OPEC quota.

"But, once the crisis is settled, the country apparently will abide by the OPEC regulation," he said adding that the country had the tendency of violating its OPEC quota only when other OPEC members do the same.

The new contracts and contract extension signed Friday were for the working areas off the shore of East Kalimantan province, Sakala coastal area (West Lombok), and Mahakam area (East Kalimantan).

The production sharing contractors will be responsible for all exploration, investment and production costs.

Pertamina will enjoy 20 percent of the total production before being deducted by the costs that should be shouldered together.

Laos

Oil Shortage Said To Be Caused By 'Speculators'

BK1601102891 Vientiane KPL in English 0908 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Vientiane, Jan 16 (KPL)—Owing to the crisis in the Persian Gulf affecting economic systems in the whole world, several days ago, the operation of petrol stations in Vientiane Prefecture was suspended due to the delayed transport of petrol.

Concerning this matter, Mr. Thongvan Phanlatsavong, deputy minister of trade and tourism, a senior official in charge of the Lao Fuel Company [LFC] and the manager of the Shell Society of Laos, elaborated that the shortage of fuel at various petrol stations in Vientiane capital was due to rumors of petrol shortage spread by some bad elements.

The sudden stockpile by the crowd of vehicle owners for fear of the shortage constrained the normal petrol supply to the stations. The LFC official and the manager of Shell confirmed that the two companies had had enough fuel to meet the social demands at the same prices: 268-273 kip/litre for petrol and 320 kip/litre for super petrol.

The Ministry of Trade and Tourism in collaboration with the Ministry of Interior will take strict measures against speculators who aim to create confusion and destabilise prices under the current complex situation.

The Lao Fuel Company operates 10 petrol stations in Vientiane capital and supplies petrol to all provinces throughout the country. The Shell Society of Laos has three agencies in Vientiane capial, Savannakhet and Champassak Provinces.

Hoarders, Profiteers To Face Legal Actions

BK1401130691 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 14 Jan 91

[Text] It is noticeable that hoarders and profiteers have created confusion and difficulties in the domestic oil market. This situation has an adverse impact on the people's livelihood as well as on national socioeconomic development.

The Ministry of Trade and Tourism has announced that there is no oil shortage in the country. [Word indistinct] and Lao Fuel Oil Companies have sufficient oil to serve the general public at gas stations of the two companies. Legal actions will be taken against hoarders and profiteers.

Bank Official Views Inflation, Exchange Rates

BK1201125391 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 10 Jan 91

[Summary] Implementing the spirit of the first nationwide banking conference held in 1989 and following the application of the business accounting mechanism in the banking system, the present operations of the banks in Laos have been gradually improved, including those of the State or Central Bank and the other six business banks. The central bank and the business banks have now developed a close relationship with one another based on business accounting under the protection of the banking regulations and laws as well as the application of certain economic measures for mutual benefits. Their services to customers are also improving. As a result of the application of the business accounting system in the banking operations, the value of the kip is becoming more stable and the demand for the kip currency for local and foreign business transactions is also rising among businessmen. Furthermore, the inflation rate that rose sharply in recent years is also gradually decreasing. At the same time, the gap of difference in the rates of exchange for foreign currencies between the state and the private [black market] sector is also moving closer toward each other.

Leuan Sombounkhan, vice chairman of the State Bank of Laos, recently said: "The inflation rate, which rose by 70 percent annually in recent years, has begun decreasing gradually since May or June 1990. By November and December, it stood only at between 15 and 16 percent. This is a new development in our banking system following the application of the business accounting mechanism."

He noted that the difference in the state and private rates of exchange for foreign currencies now stands very close to each other—only between 0.7 and 1.5 percent.

Anniversary of Friendship Group With SRV Marked

BK1201104891 Vientiane KPL in English 0905 GMT 12 Jan 91

[Text] Vientiane, Jan 12 (KPL)—In connection with the 16th founding anniversary of the Lao-Vietnamese Friendship Association (15/1/75 - 15/1/91), its president, Maisouk Saisompheng, has sent a message of greetings to the president of the Vietnamese-Lao Friendship Association welcoming the two associations' contribution to Lao-Vietnamese ties of friendship, special solidarity, and all-round cooperation over the years.

Maisouk Saisompheng said in the message that based on restructuring policy introduced in each country, the new form of cooperation between these two associations would be more fruitful.

Leaders Receive New Egyptian Ambassador

BK1501030091 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 15 Jan 91

[Text] Yesterday afternoon, Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign affairs minister, received a courtesy call from Mr. Mustafa Hasan Abu-Sunayf, new ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Laos with its chancery in Hanoi of the SRV.

Mr. Mustafa Hasan Abu-Sunayf presented his credentials to Acting President Phoumi Vongvichit on 12 January as new ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Laos.

109 Refugee Families To Be Repatriated

BK1301103891 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 8 Jan 91

[Text] One hundred and nine families comprising 484 refugees to be repatriated to their hometown of Phiang District, Sayaboury Province arrived at the reception center in late December. The district administration is currently finding farmland for them to earn a permanent living.

Philippines

Government Takes Measures in Face of Gulf Crisis

President's Message to Nation

HK1601103091 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0615 GMT 16 Jan 91

["Message" by President Corazon Aquino to the Filipino people regarding the "looming Gulf war"—live from Malacanang]

[Text] This is your president appealing to all of you to remain sober and strong in the face of crisis in the Middle East. The Gulf crisis is 8,000 miles away from us and should not cause us unnecessary worry and tension. The necessary contingency measures for the present crisis is now being implemented by the different government agencies with the help of various private sectors. Which is why I assure you now that we are prepared for this crisis, and so, we need to stay calm. I know the worries of those who have relatives working in the Middle East particularly those in areas near Iraq and Kuwait. And so I have instructed Secretary Ruben Torres to go to Saudi Arabia and nearby countries in order to coordinate with the authorities concerned and ensure the safety of all Filipino workers should war erupts.

The other day when Secretary Torres was in Qatar, he reiterated to me that contingency measures regarding the evacuation of Filipino workers have been completed up to the company level. I also designated Executive Secretary Oscar Orbos to establish a communication network with the help of mass media and telecommunication companies, so as to keep the relatives of the Filipino workers informed of their condition in the Middle East. The Presidential Complaints and Action Office of Malacanang will be the center of communication. Our action office will be open 24 hours to help you.

Our country has sufficient food, oil, and gasoline, thus, there is no need to panic. I assure you of the following:

1. There will be no price hike of oil or gasoline should war break out. We have a 67-day inventory of oil and gasoline at present and additional supplies continue to come in. Our current prices therefore will remain for as long as two months. Don't be misled by rumors. Should the supply of oil and gasoline be cut off from the Middle East, although based on our studies this will not happen, the present inventory is sufficient for our needs. Nonetheless, let us continue to conserve these products. We will implement the contigency measures to prevent sudden price hikes and to ensure the continuous supply of food and other basic needs.

2. There is a sufficient supply of rice, sugar and other prime commodities. There is no need for panic-buying. I have also called on the traders who are producing and selling basic commodities and they have committed themselves to help our government ensure the sufficient production of all our needs in time of crisis.

3. Price control on basic commodities will be strictly enforced. I have designated all mayors and governors as chief action officers for the implementation of Executive Order No. 444 regarding price control and the prevention of hoarding, profiteering, and price manipulation. If necessary, price control will be extended to other important commodities to ensure that no one will take advantage of the present crisis.

4. Most important of all, our Philippine National Police, Armed Forces of the Philippines and all forces of the government are prepared to confront and contain all elements that threaten national peace and order during the time of crisis.

I also call on you to remain vigilant. Let us coordinate with authorities concerned if we notice any suspicious movement in our surroundings. Although we are now faced with a crisis, I strongly believe that we can face all trials and hardships caused by this. The Filipino is strong. The Filipino will succeed.

My beloved countrymen, let us hold hands and help one another for the sake of our nation.

Open Air Policy Declared

HK1601014791 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] The government has declared an open air policy for all foreign airlines carrying Filipino workers from the Middle East to the Philippines. According to the Department of Transportation and Communications, the open air policy will be effective up to 31 January 1991. The department said the Philippine air routes can be used to take in Filipino passengers who are stranded in the Middle East. This policy covers airlines having no air agreement with the Philippines. The open air policy may be extended until the situation in the Gulf improves.

Embassies' Security Increased

HK1601115691 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 16 Jan 91

[By Restie de Quiros]

[Text] The military and police formed special intelligence teams to provide security to foreigners and embassies, which may be targets of terrorist attacks should war break out in the Middle East. Defense Undersecretary Eduardo Ermita said that special intelligence teams from the Capital Region Command or CAPCOM, and National Capital Region Defense Command will be deployed near the embassies of countries participating in Operation Desert Shield to secure their nationals here in the Philippines. According to Ermita the teams are prepared to respond to any emergency and they are closely monitoring the potential targets after enforcing the security measures aimed at preventing the possible influx of foreign terrorists in the country. Based on earlier reports, about 1,000 Iraqi nationals in the country are being closely monitored because they may be tapped for terrorist activities against the Americans and other foreigners.

It will be recalled that the Iraqi Government warned of a global guerrilla war should the multinational allied forces in Saudi Arabia attempt to force them out of Kuwait. According to Ermita, there is no indication that the Muslim rebels in Mindanao will support the call of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn for expanded terrorism outside the Gulf region. Ermita explained that although the Moro National Liberation Front or MNLF is receiving support from Libya which is helping Iraq in its confrontation with the United Nations, it is also receiving financial help from Saudi Arabia which is supporting the expulsion of Iraq from Kuwait. Aside from this, MNLF chief Nur Misuari is based in Saudi Arabia.

According to Ermita, it will be very difficult for foreign terrorists to enter the country because of the strict security measures being enforced in all ports. Meanwhile, Interior and Local Government Undersecretary Ramon Montano said the police, particularly the antiterrorist strike force can respond to the activities depending on the number of requests they will receive from the various embassies in the country. Department of Interior and Local Government Undersecretary Montano announced today the Philippine National Police will provide security to the different foreign embassies in the country.

Japanese Embassy Receives Threats

OW1601105691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0949 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Manila, Jan. 16 KYODO—Philippine military authorities have tightened security measures at foreign embassies in Manila following reports that communist rebels plan to attack foreigners closely involved in the Gulf conflict, Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos said Wednesday.

A senior defense department official told KYODO NEWS SERVICE that the Japanese Embassy has received threats from an unidentified group opposed to Japan's involvement in the Gulf.

A ranking Japanese Embassy official who refused to be named said a Japanese attache received a call a few days ago from an unidentified man who warned that Japanese Embassy staff face attacks because of Japan's support for the multinational forces pitted against Iraq.

Ramos earlier quoted intelligence reports saying Luis Jalandoni, the international representative of the underground National Democratic Front (NDF), promised Iraqi officials that Filipino communist rebels will support Iraq by attacking foreign nationals closely involved in the conflict in the Gulf.

Wire dispatches from the Netherlands said the NDF office in Utrecht confirmed that Jalandoni visited Baghdad from last December 17 to 21 and vowed to attack U.S. installations in the Philippines.

Meanwhile, as part of the stepped-up security measures, the military and police have formed anti-terrorist squads to conduct intelligence work and to respond to possible attacks on embassies and personnel, Defense Undersecretary Eduardo Ermita said.

He said the special teams were also assigned to monitor foreign nationals from countries included in the multinational force in the Gulf, and to tighten security at airports and entry points to the country.

Ermita said the government was confident international terrorists would have a difficult time entering the country in view of the strict security measures.

Included in the countries closely involved in the Middle East crisis which maintain embassies and consulates in Manila are the U.S., Israel, Britain, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, France, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and other Arab countries.

Airports on Red Alert

HK1601130491 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Ninoy Aquino International Airport [NAIA] General Manager Eduardo Carrascoso has placed the international and domestic airports on red alert in relation to the imminent Gulf war. Carrascoso said snipers of the Philippine Air Force Security Command's SWAT teams have been on watch for 24 hours now. Bomb sniffing dogs have also been brought to the NAIA lobby.

Immigration Chief on Terrorism

HK1601103391 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 16 Jan 91

[By Rey Arquiza from the Immigration Department]

[Text] Immigration Commissioner Andrea Domingo disclosed today that a 10-man terrorist group from Baghdad plans to enter various countries including the Philippines to export trouble from the Gulf. In a news conference, Commissioner Domingo presented four Iraqi and Jordanian student leaders, who pledged not to participate in any disruptions, and said they will obey all immigration and Philippine laws. Commissioner Domingo warned them that they will be picked up by immigration agents the moment they contact the terrorists, but assured them they won't be given a hard time if they don't do anything bad.

Two Iraqi students refused to be interviewed and photographed for fear this may be detrimental to them. Domingo said she has alerted immigration agents in relation to foreigners entering the country and possessing visibly new passports. She explained the terrorists definitely have exchanged passports to hide their true nationality in order to enter the countries they plan to sabotage. Domingo also disclosed that based on intelligence reports, there are Iraqi nationals in the country who are recruiting Filipino mercenaries for enlistment in the Iraqi Armed Forces. They allegedly pay $10,000 for each Filipino recruited. Domingo ordered an investigation into the report adding that based on the same intelligence report, about 20,000 Kuwaiti passports were lost when Iraq attacked Kuwait and that these passports may have been used by those planning to export the turmoil in the Gulf.

Justice Minister on Terrorism

HK1601043691 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 16 Jan 91 p 10

[Text] Justice Secretary [Sec.] Franklin M. Drilon yesterday said the Bureau of Immigration and Deportation [BID] and the National Bureau of Investigation have started monitoring activities of Palestinians, Iraqis and individuals holding Jordanian passports as a precautionary measure against possible terrorist activities they may stage in the Philippines.

Sec. Drilon assured these nationals they may still hold rallies and demonstrations provided "these are staged in conformity with our laws."

"We will be holding a meeting with the leaders of these nationals tomorrow at the BID to ask them not to bring the theater of war to Manila. We have also assured them of their safety but we request them to cooperate with us in so doing," the justice secretary said.

Meanwhile, the U.S. is seeking the close cooperation of friendly countries to forestall Iraqi terrorist activity, a foreign diplomat disclosed yesterday.

He made available a "standard" diplomatic note which the US had conveyed to his government in this regard. "I have spoken with my counterparts here and I understand that the Philippines got essentially the same message," he said.

"The U.S. Government believes that in the case of hostilities in the Persian Gulf, the world community will face a widespread terrorist campaign carried out by Iraqi agents, by terrorist groups allied or sympathetic to Iraq and by others seeking to take advantage of the situation for their own ends," the U.S. note said.

Believing that "many of the professional terrorists...may well go into action as soon as the first 24 or 48 hours of hostilities," the U.S. suggested it "would be prudent to have political agreement to do everything possible to forestall the expected terrorism."

It proposed the "strategic interview" of suspected terrorists. "The questioning of suspects could disrupt a number of planned terrorist actions by directly detaining those involved in terrorist plots and by frightening others planning such activities," the note said.

"As you know," the American note said, "we are also reducing the Iraqi diplomatic presence in the U.S. We hope your Government will agree to act in parallel with us to the degree possible under your legal system."

"In the case of suspected diplomats, immediate expulsion should be considered," the note urged.

The other day, Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus said he was assured by Iraqi envoy Ali Mahmoud Sumaida that no such actions would be undertaken here.

Filipinos Reportedly Join Saudi Arabian Army

HK1601121491 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] The Department of Foreign Affairs is now verifying reports stating that there are Filipino workers who have joined the Royal Saudi Arabian Army. Here is Jojo Ismael with the details:

[Begin recording] The senate committee on national defense and security today learned that about 100 Filipino workers in Saudi Arabia has joined the Royal Saudi Arabian Army and will be deployed in the event the feared war in the Middle East breaks out.

According to Senator Ernesto Maceda, the committee chairman, the information came from two executives of a recruitment agency who just arrived from Saudi Arabia. In this connection, Senator Maceda wrote Foreign Affairs

Secretary Raul Manglapus requesting necessary verification of the information, including verification of earlier reports stating that there are also Filipino overseas contract workers who decided to join the Kuwaiti underground resistance. According to the report, five Filipinos who became members of the Kuwaiti resistance movement were captured by the Iraqi Army. [end recording]

Advertisement Calls for U.S. Bases Termination

HK1501044591 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 15 Jan 91 p 3

[Boxed advertisement signed by the New Nationalist Alliance or BAYAN]

[Text] The nation is engulfed in crisis. But the government is putting all the blame on the Gulf.

WAR It can have real effects. Yet one major factor involving us in the Gulf war remains—the U.S. bases.

Talks are for an extended phase-out. Yet the Aquino government is keeping it under wraps.

Deceit. Insults. The talks. As the United States insists on playing the country's master and the world's superpolice—with its arms and troops.

The arms? The troops? The bases? The talks? We dare say, *No More!* The master-client relationship? The crisis? We dare say *NO MORE!*

FEND FOR OURSELVES IN THIS CRISIS!

TERMINATE THE U.S. BASE NOW!

LET SEPTEMBER 16, 1991 BE THE LAST DAY.

NO MORE TO THE BASES TALKS!

[Signed] Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (BAYAN)

Rebels Asked To Halt Quezon Province Offensive

HK1601033691 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 16 Jan 91 pp 1, 12

[By Owen Masaganda]

[Text] Lopez, Quezon—Sen. Wigberto E. Tanada called on the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and its military and political arms, the New People's Army (NPA) and the National Democratic Front (NDF), respectively, to suspend their offensive operations in Southern Tagalog to enable all groups to contribute to the development of the region, particularly Quezon province.

The senator flew here by helicopter yesterday. He had earlier been invited by Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos and Gov. Eduardo T. Rodriguez to a peace dialogue at the town hall here.

Tanada was accompanied by Prof. Maris Diokno and Riza Hontivaros Baraquel of the Multisectoral Peace Advocates.

Secretary Ramos was accompanied by Lt. Gen Rodolfo Biazon, designated AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff; Brig. Gen. Federico Ruiz Jr of Solcom [Southern Luzon Command]; Brig. Gen. Evaristo G. Carino, Recom [Regional Command] 4 PNP [Philippine National Police] chief; Thelmo Cunanan, 2nd Division commander of the Army; Brig. Gen. Pablo Galvez, 51st Engineering Brigade [EB] chief; and Brig. Clemente Mariano, chief of the 203rd Infantry Brigade based in Calauag, Quezon.

Earlier, Ramos and Tanada inaugurated a waterworks system in Catanauan in the Bondoc Peninsula. The system was constructed by the 2nd engineering district.

District engineer Medardo Panganiban informed Ramos and Tanada that the waterworks system can supply potable water to the entire barangay of Cancolajao.

Governor Rodriguez told barangay captain Eufrocina Cabangon that before the end of this month, electric distribution lines will be connected to a generator.

General Galvez told the visiting officials that the 38.97-kilometer Catanauan road project was submitted to the provincial government of Quezon last March.

Mayor Joel Arago said that the visit of Ramos and Tanada boosted the morale of the farmers who are expected to plant more crops.

Joe Marie Gerochu of the Department of Agriculture had earlier promised to help the farmers by providing free seeds.

During the dialogue, Ramos asked the cooperation of the people to report to military officials any abuses committed by military men. Ramos was irked by the reports of abuses by military men in Quezon.

However, he said that the accomplishments of the AFP in the drive against insurgency were sometime not appreciated by the people and some officials. He recalled that 14 non-commissioned officers of the 51st EB were killed while constructing the Lopez-Catanauan road.

General Galvez said that some of the heavy equipment of the 51st Engineering Brigade were blasted and some were burned by the NPA last Sept. 3. Four of his men were kidnapped on Sept. 27, 1987, and were released on Christmas Day of 1987.

Ranger Regiment Reactivated

HK1601041491 Quezon City MALAYA in English 16 Jan 91 p 2

[By Noel Bartolome]

[Text] Maj. Gen. Lisandro Abadia, Army chief, disclosed yesterday that 10 companies of the newly-reactivated Scout Ranger Regiment, composed of at least 1,000 troops, will be deployed next month to beef up the counterinsurgency campaign in the countryside.

Abadia said the old members of the previously disbanded Scout Rangers will be pulled out from their present assignments in the Army's 8th infantry division.

Sen. Wigberto Tanada (Ind.), meanwhile, called on the underground National Democratic Front [NDF] to suspend all its offensive military operations in view of the Gulf crisis.

Tanada made the appeal to the NDF command in Southern Tagalog. He also asked local officials in the region to include people's organizations in their communities as partners in delivering more government services to rural areas.

The 2,000-strong 1st Scout Ranger Regiment was deactivated by then Army chief Maj. Gen. Manuel Cacanando shortly after the failed December coup attempt where at least 800 Rangers led by now detained Lt. Col. Rafael Galvez joined the 4th Marine Battalion in the coup attempt.

Abadia said they will deploy eight regular companies and two reserve companies of the elite Scout Rangers to intensify the counter-insurgency campaign and "continue the AFP's [Armed Forces of the Philippines] momentum against the already weakening strength of the communist rebels."

He said the Rangers will help the Philippine National Police during the 18-month transition period for the complete separation of the Constabulary and police from the AFP.

Scout Rangers were organized by now National Security Adviser Rafael Ileto in the early 1960s to fight the communist insurgency which was then spearheaded by the Hukbalahap movement.

Abadia said the Rangers, which were trained for guerrilla warfare, will boost the campaign against the 20-year old communist insurgency.

In a "Dialogue for Peace" with local officials in Lopez, Quezon, Tanada said all groups would be encouraged to contribute to efforts towards peace if the New People's ARmy [NPA] suspended its military operations.

The cessation of hostilities by the NPA, he said, would also encourage the government to suspend its military operations, and this would pave the way for a nationwide ceasefire.

Tanada is the leader of the peace advocates seeking peace talks between the government and all rebel groups.

General Reports Rebel Loss of Masses' Support

HK1401034791 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 14 Jan 91 p 21

[By O. Masaganda]

[Text] Virac, Catanduanes—Brig. Gen. Federico Ruiz Jr., Southern Luzon Command (Solcom) chief, said the Communist Party of the Philippines and its military arm, the New People's Army (NPA) in Southern Tagalog and the Bicol region were on the defensive last year, and predicted many more rebels will join the government's side in 1991.

General Ruiz attributed his optimistic assessment to the rebels loss of support from the masses.

Ruiz arrived here with Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos, who was guest of honor and speaker at the opening of the 1991 Bicol Regional Athletic meet at the Catanduanes Sports Complex here.

The Southern Luzon Command covers 15 provines, 281 municipalities and 10 cities. Rizal and Palawan are not included in the Solcom.

General Ruiz said the Communist Party is still the greatest threat to the peace and order situation in his area of operation. He said that in 1990, the strength of the CPP [Communist Party of the Philippines]-NPA dropped from 2,872 to 2,531 or by 12 percent. Support elements decreased by 16.3 percent, he added.

Among the reasons why the CPP-NPA suffered setbacks is the massive operation launched by the 2nd division of the Philippine Army under Brig. Gen. Thelmo Cunanan, the 203rd Brigade under Brig. Gen. Clemente Mariano, and the brigade of Col. Victor Mayo based in Pili, Camarines Sur.

Recom 4 and 5 of the PC-INP (now PNP) under Brig. Gen. Evaristo G. Carino and Brig. Gen. Miguel F. Fontanilla are also conducting operations against the insurgents. Both Recom 4 and 5 are operationally under Solcom.

According to General Ruiz, the "special operation team" (SOT) and "Lambat Bitag" are effective in fighting the CPP-NPA.

Ruiz said there has been a total of 15 insurgency-related incidents since Jan 1.

2 Killed, 15 Injured in Kalinga-Apayao Raids

HK1501043791 Quezon City MALAYA in English 15 Jan 91 p 6

[By Manny Velasco]

[Text] Two government militiamen were killed while 15 others were seriously injured in two separate incidents when New People's Army rebels attacked military patrol bases Sunday, belated military reports said yesterday.

Heavily armed rebels raided and overran the 140 PNP [Philippine National Police] Company at Cabikitan, Conner, Kalinga-Apayao killing a militiaman and injuring seven PNP troopers.

Killed in the raid was a certain Leliguiab, a militia volunteer.

Reports said the heavily armed communist rebels fled 30 minutes after the dawn attack and carted away with an M-60 machine gun and a 60 mm mortar.

The report added that the outnumbered government troops were taken by surprise and were not able to fight back.

In Sorsogon, another militiaman was killed and eight others were seriously injured when some 150 communist rebels attacked and burned the 257th PNP patrol base in Donsol town.

Killed was Seigrado Narra, a militiaman.

Wounded were C1C [Constable 1st Class] Elmer Imperial, CAAs [expansion unknown] Charlie Radana, Noli Radana, Leovic Nagares, Estelito Encinas and C2C [Constable 2d Class] Manuel Ysip.

The early morning raid triggered a two-hour firefight between the rebels and government troopers forcing the latter to retreat when they ran out of ammunitions.

The rebels burned the patrol base after carting away three M-14 rifles, two M-16 rifles and four Garand rifles.

Government Launches Attacks Against NPA, MNLF

HK1401034591 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 14 Jan 91 pp 1, 21

[By Wilma Yamzon]

[Text] Government troops launched simultaneous attacks on New People's Army (NPA) and Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) bases in Bicol, Central Luzon, and Mindanao, killing five rebels and wounding several others, belated reports reaching Camp Aguinaldo said yesterday.

Military reports also said five rebels surrendered, following intense fighting between soldiers and communist guerrillas in Nueva Ecija.

A report released by the General Headquarters of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) said a platoon from the 6th Marine Company of the 6th Marine Battalion Landing Team, together with members of the Citizen Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU), attacked an MNLF base in barangay Lipid in Basilan.

Two MNLF rebels were killed in the encounter and two Garand rifles were recovered from the battle scene.

In Maguindanao, Army men led by a certain First Lieutenant Gatmen raided barangay Landasan and sitio Balug, barangay Polloc in Parang town.

Rebels, however, escaped before the arrival of the team, but soldiers seized a carbine, a shotgun, and homemade bombs which were turned over to the 35th Infantry Battalion.

Reports said last Jan. 1, Barangay Captain Marianito del Rosario and Army Pfc. [Private First Class] Damian Pagba of the 56th Infantry Battalion encountered an NPA band in barangay Imelda Valley, Palayan City in Nueva Ecija.

Army soldiers killed an NPA membeer and recovered several high- powered guns and three rounds of ammunition.

The report added that after two days, NPA rebels identified as Tomas Celes, Roman Anicate, Mario Celes, Pedro Anicate, and Ruben Briones surrendered to the commanding officer of the 172nd PC [Philippine Constabulary] Company in San Fernando, Pampanga.

In Camarines Sur, Army soldiers encountered about 150 heavily armed NPA rebels in barangay Caima, Sipocot.

Reporters said Pfc. Adriano Jayme and militiamen Artemio Dala, Alfonso Castillo, and Benjamin Lasay were wounded, while a certain Mrs. Biluan was hit by a stray bullet.

Troops from the Alpha Company of the 1st Infantry Battalion later attacked an NPA base in Sipocot and recovered three improvised anti- tank landmines, eight molotov bombs, detonating cord, six electrical blasting caps, 200 rounds of ammunition for light machinegun M-60, subversive documents, and personal belongings.

Column Views Rebel Support in Europe

HK1601033891 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 16 Jan 91 p 4

["On the Other Hand" column by Antonio C. Abaya: "NDF (National Democratic Front) strengthens its shields in Europe"]

[Text] A new "ecumenical Philippine solidarity group," called Simbayan, has recently been organized, based in Nijkerk (literally, New Church), Holland. Simbayan is guided by the ideas of "liberation through people's organizations"; of organizing of "progressive Christians" working towards "democracy and national independence"; and of linking with these groups.

Simbayan has organized lecture tours in Holland by such worthies as Fr. Ed de la Torre (founder of CNL [Christians for National Liberation], co-founder of the NDF [National Democratic Front]), Lidy Alejandro (Bayan) [New Nationalist Alliance], Etta Rosales (Bayan), Mercadito Contreras (Pahra) [Philippine Alliance of Human Rights Advocates] and [word indistinct] Senator Wigberto Tanada.

In its recent issues, the journal FORUM, organ of the German solidarity group Philippinenburo, reported to its breathless audience the following tidbits, among other things:

a. Many members of German solidarity groups, church communities, farmer organizations and political parties have inundated the Philippine Embassy in Bonn with protest letters demanding the release of KMP [Philippine Peasants Movement] chairman Jaime "Ka [Comrade] Jimmy" Tadeo, in jail for estafa [graft], whom many of them met in a 1988 tour sponsored by the NDF.

b. The West German Greens in Kreis Lauenberg are providing financial support for the Aetas in Mt. Pinatubo (Zambales) whose forest habitats have been "destroyed" by (U.S.?) military roads.

c. At the invitation of the Evangelical Church of Westfallen, four members of Preda (Fr. Shay Cullen's organization in Olongapo City) toured Germany for a month lecturing on "the social costs of the U.S. bases which destroy the environment and lead to prostitution and drug abuse."

d. Amado Mendoza of the Freedom from Debt Coalition disrupted the annual stockholders' meeting of the Deutsche Bank in Essen last May with a diatribe on the Philippine debt problem. The chairman of the meeting chided Mendoza, saying the Bank's annual stockholders' meeting was not the proper place to analyze the total situation in the Philippines Hahahaha.

Mendoza had attended the meeting with two members of the NDF solidarity group from the town of Paderborn, who had been invited by "critical bond owners."

German law permits bond owners to speak out during stockholders meetings. Some European leftist groups, including the NDF solidarity groups in Germany, have been buying small amounts of shares in several multinational corporations in order to disturb their stockholders' meetings.

e. The German Greens Party has successfully demanded the immediate halt to German development aid to a road-building project in the Bondoc Peninsula (Quezon) on the grounds of "militarization and human rights abuses." (Not by coincidence, the area happens to be an NPA [New People's Army] sanctuary which would become more vulnerable to AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] operations if roads were built to traverse it).

f. During the first half of 1990, the CPP [Communist Party of the Philippines] has grown sharply, after years of losing members. Growth occurred especially in the Manila area, where there are 4,000 members. Focus is no longer on students and intellectuals, but on workers and slum dwellers.

CPP strategy has changed from a popular war in the countryside, coupled with political mobilization in the cities, towards expansion of guerrilla zones in the countryside and the creation of armed groups in the cities through political and military ("pol-mil") work.

(The NDF solidarity groups in Germany would not be concerned about the growth of the CPP if they were not friendly to and supportive of it).

g. A new NDF solidarity organization—the Philippine International Center for Human Rights (PICHR)—was recently estaboished in Brussels. Sponsors included Task Force Detainees, the human rights commission of the NCCP [expansion unknown] and the UCCP [expansion unknown]; and the Protestant Lawyers League of the Philippines. The PICHR will set up a databank on human rights abuses (by "the U.S.- Aquino regime," not those by the CPP-NPA, you can be sure), and will publish magazines, brochures and audio-visual material (to prove, no doubt, that human rights are being violated more often under Cory Aquino than under Ferdinand Marcos).

The guest speaker at the inauguration of the PICHR was Sister Mariani Dimaranan (a leading radchic nun affiliated with Gabriela [General Assembly Binding Women for Reforms, Integrity, Equality, Leadership, and Action]).

The activities of the NDF solidarity groups in Europe attest to the keen organizational skills of ex-priest Luis Jalandoni, who built the network from nothing almost singlehandedly. That Jalandoni has poisoned the minds of countless well-meaning but misinformed Europeans, there can be no doubt. The damage he has caused is incalculable.

That the Aquino government has hardly lifted a finger to counteract the black propaganda against it in Europe, there is, sadly, also no doubt. The Foreign Information Council, organized more than two years ago, supposedly to wage counterpropaganda, does not have even one dollar in its kitty. Guess who is winning the information war.

New National Police Appointments Announced

HK1601032491 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 16 Jan 91 pp 1, 12

[By Roy Sinfuego]

[Text] Four former officers of the Integrated National Police (INP) have been appointed to top positions in the Philippine National Police (PNP), PNP Director General Cesar Nazareno announced yesterday.

The four appointees were chief superintendents Luis Lambrento, chief of the PNP finance center; Regino Aro III, chief of the PNP civil relations unit; Orlando Macaspac, senior executive assistant to the PNP director general; and Vivencio Manaig Jr., chief of the PNP communications and electronic group.

Nazareno also announced the appointment of three former PC [Philippine Constabulary] officers; Chief Superintendent Adam Jimenez, chief of the PNP police maritime unit; and senior Superintendents Elpidio Ablang, chief of PNP computer center, and Raymundo Logan, PNP chief of logistics.

Contrary to the perception that only former PC officers are appointed to key PNP positions, Nazareno said, there will be more former INP officers in the roster of officers in the new organization.

"Education, training, experience, and the candidate's leadership potentials are the primary consideration in selecting the officers to be given positions while his good past records is considered a plus factor," Nazareno said.

As chief of the maritime unit, Jimenez will take over the "police functions" of the Philippine Coast Guard in the enforcement of maritime laws and regulations.

Soon to be activated is the police aviation unit which will oversee and enforce aviation laws and regulations, including security aspects of the country's airports in key cities and capitals throughout the country. It will automatically take over the functions of the Philippine Air Force Security Command (Pafsecom).

Superintendent Cris Maralit, PNP spokesman, said that the appointment of INP officers is in line with Nazareno's policy to give equal chances and opportunities to all deserving officers in keeping with the spirit of the PNP law.

Thailand

Foreign Minister Urges Iraq To 'Avert War'

BK1601034491 Hong Kong AFP in English 0334 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Bangkok, Jan 16 (AFP)—Thailand appealed Wednesday to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to avert war.

The appeal, only hours away from the 0500 GMT Gulf crisis deadline for Iraq to pull out of Kuwait or face war, was voiced here by Thai Foreign Minister Athit Urairat.

"As the deadline is approaching we are worried, but we hope that in those last hours something positive might happen." Mr. Athit told reporters on leaving for Kuala Lumpur for talks with Malaysian leaders.

"We hope that Saddam Husayn will take a step to avert war," Mr. Athit added.

Prime Minister Rules Out Troops in Gulf

BK1601014991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 16 Jan 91 p A2

[Text] Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan yesterday ruled out any possibility of Thailand sending military technicians or other personnel to Saudi Arabia to help the country fight an impending war.

"We won't send any troops. We will only send medical teams," he said.

Chatchai also reafirmed Thailand's position to comply with the UN resolutions calling for international economic sanctions to pressure Iraq to pull out of Kuwait.

His statement officially finished off the proposal that Thailand send air force technicians to help Saudi Arabia maintain its F-5Es jet fighters. Foreign Minister Athit Urairat reportedly suggested the idea in talks with his Saudi Arabian counterpart during his recent trip to the Middle East country.

Chatchai's stand was believed to reflect the position taken by a recent meeting of the National Security Council (NSC) which he called to review the Gulf situation and to consider how Thailand should react.

The prime minister struck an optimistic note when he predicted that if a Gulf war erupts after the Jan 15 deadline (Jan 16 noon Bangkok time) which the United Nations Security Council set for Iraq to pull out of Kuwait it would be shortlived.

"Every party concerned will try to finish the war as swiftly as possible because the war would ignite oil wells and the sooner the war is over, the sooner the fires would be put out," he said. Experts have voiced concern that the fires could rage for months and affect the ecology of the world.

He said he prayed that the war would be averted.

"I don't know whether it will erupt or not. But I pray it won't," he said.

Even though Thailand is a long way from the potential battlefields and would not be directly affected by a Gulf war, war was still undesirable, he said.

He reaffirmed his previous statement that Thailand would not be hit by an acute shortage of crude oil in the event of a Gulf war.

"We have diversified our sources of crude oil. Many countries, including the Soviet Union, China, Indonesia, Brunei and Malaysia are willing to sell us crude," he said.

He ruled out the possibility that a Gulf war would cause severe oil shortages and force the government to order oil companies to ration oil supplies to the provinces. The contingency measure was discussed at a meeting of the subcommittee of the National Energy Policy Committee on Monday.

Workers' Situation in Middle East Overviewed

Situation 'Not Serious'

BK1601020991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 16 Jan 91 p A1

[Text] Jeddah residents have begun hoarding drinking water and food, and the price of goods has edged up as the threat of war with Iraq looms, a Thai labour official said yesterday.

However, Wirawat Chirasanti, a Labour Department official who accompanied a team of Thai officials to Jeddah to help Thai workers there, told THE NATION in a long-distance phone interview that the situation still is "not serious."

He said the officials have advised the Thai expatriates to be ready for emergency evacuation and have prepared temporary shelters and food for them.

Radio Thailand reported yesterday that Saudi authorities have begun selling gas masks and protective clothing to civilians, including Thai nationals, to protect themselves against the possible use of chemical weapons.

Some big companies that Thai expatriates are working with have also distributed gas masks to their workers, the report said.

Public Health Ministry Deputy Permanent Secretary Pramuk Chanthawimon said yesterday that 16 more doctors and medical officials will leave for Saudi Arabia today to help Thai workers in the Middle East.

The team, the third one sent to Saudi Arabia since Saturday, will depart at about 8 pm for a 15-day mission, he said.

Five Thai officials left for Riyadh on Saturday and eight others departed Monday night in preparation to help Thai expatriates in Middle East countries in the event of a war to liberate Iraq- occupied Kuwait.

Pramuk said about 200 doctors and other medical officials have volunteered to go to the Middle East to help Thai workers, and people of other nationalities if necessary, in the event that war breaks out in the Persian Gulf.

The Cabinet yesterday approved a Bt [baht] 13 million fund for the Public Health Ministry to send more medical teams to the Middle East on humanitarian missions.

Two more medical teams, comprising 15 doctors and health officials each, are scheduled to leave for Saudi Arabia on Jan 26 and operate at the evacuation centres for Thai workers for 15 days.

Four evacuation centres have been set up in Riyadh, Jeddah, Amman and Al Hufuf to receive Thai workers who would flee their work sites in the event of war.

The Thai embassy in Riyadh reported to the Foreign Ministry yesterday that it has found a site in Al Hufuf, able to hold up to 20,000 people, which could be used to receive Thai workers who fled battle zones.

However, the civil director of Saudi Arabia's eastern region defence, Mohamed Saleh Mazelbi, has issued an announcement saying that it is not necessary to evacuate people from eastern Saudi cities near Kuwait if war breaks out because authorities have well prepared for the protection of civilians, according to the embassy report.

100,000 Remain in Saudi Arabia

BK1601151191 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The Public Relations Department's correspondent has reported an interview given in Riyadh by Thai Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Likkhasit Pansomchit early this evening. The ambassador gave a briefing on the situation in Saudi Arabia as the deadline for Iraq to pull out from Kuwait was approaching. He said that everyone was alert and ready. Thai workers had been sent to the al-Hufuf evacuation center, about 200 km east of Riyadh. They were accompanied by embassy officials as well as officials sent from Thailand to coordinate with local authorities on help for Thai workers. He said that about 300 to 400 workers are now at the center. There are about 100,000 Thai workers in Saudi Arabia. The ambassador said that the Saudi Government yesterday announced to all foreigners in Saudi Arabia that they are strictly prohibited from moving from place to place. The Saudi Government pledged its responsibility in providing safety for all workers, and it will take responsibility for moving workers out of areas which it feels are no longer safe.

The ambassador said that Thai workers at the evacuation center are thankful for the Thai Government's concern and assistance for them. The Thai ambassador in Riyadh also thanked Deputy Interior Minister Watthana Atsawahem, Prasong Rananan, director general of the Labor Department, as well as authorities concerned in providing help for the embassy which resulted in an efficient mission to assist Thai workers.

As for the latest development, the ambassador reported that shortage of food supplies, especially of water, began to be felt. Diplomatic circles in Riyadh viewed that there is no hope for diplomatic options and a hope for peace is very dim. Anyway they do not think the fighting, if there is any, will spread to Saudi Arabia due to the massive strength of the allied forces.

The latest report was filed from Saudi Arabia by Phaithun Hiranpradit, assistant chief of the Thai Information Office in Riyadh, saying that a number of Thai workers started moving to the al-Hufuf center. Officials of the Thai Information Office have also left for al-Hufuf. [Passage omitted]

Foreign Ministry's Gulf Diplomacy Criticized

BK1101153991 Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 9 Jan 91 p 5

[Column by Tamolo: "The Pro-American Stance Has Taken Its Toll"]

[Text] The new foreign minister, Dr. Athit Urairat, has started his tenure badly. His Persian Gulf initiative has drawn widespread opposition from militarymen, academics, opposition parties, and even some members of parliament from his own Solidarity Party. The prime minister, tongue in cheek, defended him by saying that Athit had been carried away by his own words.

Nobody has supported Dr. Athit. He defended himself by saying that he had to make a decision so as not to be isolated. But I think Athit is already isolated. He has been blamed for taking unilateral steps, bypassing consultations with authorities concerned, including the National Security Council which knew nothing about his offer to send aircraft maintenance technicians to Saudi Arabia. How could he!

It seems that Dr. Athit did not know what he was doing himself. I think the scenario had been hatched by Foreign Ministry officials. It is a known fact that officials there have always influenced the foreign minister, especially when bureaucracy adopts a firm and unified stand. It is not strange then that the the ministry officials have dominated the new foreign minister.

The people have been taught that foreign affairs is a high science characterized by profundity and discretion, that it is solely the responsibility of Foreign Ministry officials to execute this science, and that those not from the Foreign Ministry should not have the arrogance to interfere. This is the reason why the policy advisers at Ban Phitsanulok have been at loggerheads with Foreign Ministry officials, upset by the fact that the policy advisers want to measure up to them.

Well, those men at the Foreign Ministry worship the United States the way the Hindus worship the god Shiva. This has been firmly kept as a tradition from generation to generation. It has been labelled as the policy of kissing up to the United States. The policy has not changed despite the fact that there have been changes in the United States.

Isn't the initiative by the new foreign minister, termed by others as bypassing normal channels, the result of this pro-U.S. policy?

Everyone knows that the United States must defend itself in the best possible way on the Persian Gulf issue because of its oil interest. The United States has tried to get other countries to join its war against Iraq for the sake of its oil interest. And Thailand is one among them.

Readers still remember that after declaring its readiness to wage war with Iraq, the United States approached Thailand for the use of the former U.S. military base of Utaphao as a logistic facility for its war in the Persian Gulf. The matter has quietened down probably because of strong opposition against it.

Now the Foreign Ministry has offered to send technicians to help Saudi Arabia maintain its jet fighters. After this, Utaphao base would automatically be offered for use without a hitch.

The policy of kissing up to the Americans has already given us trouble during the Indochina war when the United States suddenly abandoned the war and returned home without thinking about the friend it left behind. At that time, Thailand was exposed to a serious danger but managed to survive thanks to the power of the Guardian Angel of Siam. We have had that feeling of mistrust for the Americans since.

And now we have forgotten that lesson.

The Indochina war was not that dreadful because, no matter what, we eat the same kind of food as those from Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam. But the war with the Arabs would be hard for us to swallow.

It would not help to think about changing the foreign minister. And it would be useless to tell our Foreign Ministry to stop kissing up to the United States.

Well, we may have to adopt the tactic used by the policy advisers at Ban Phitsanulok.

Ministry Announces Support to ROK in ASEAN

BK1601023591 Bangkok THE NATION in English 16 Jan 91 p A4

[Text] Thailand is willing to back South Korea's request that it be allowed to become a full "dialogue partner" with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), a senior Foreign Ministry official said yesterday.

Sakthip Krairoek, the ministry's spokesman, told reporters that Foreign Minister Athit Urairat pledged to help South Korea receive the status during his meeting yesterday with Chu-nyon Chong, South Korean ambassador to Thailand.

Chong paid a courtesy call on Athit to congratulate him on being appointed foreign minister.

South Korea is now a "sectoral" dialogue partner of the regional grouping. ASEAN's full dialogue partners are the United States, Canada, the European Community, Japan, Australia and New Zealand.

Informed sources said South Korea had applied for full dialogue partner status and all the ASEAN countries but Thailand agreed to the request.

Chong also asked for Athit's support in his country's attempt to apply for membership in the United Nations and the unification of North and South Koreas.

Athit told the Korean envoy that Thailand would do its utmost to assist South Korea in both objectives, said Sakthip, adding that Athit also told the envoy that both North and South Koreas should be accepted to the UN.

Among foreign envoys paying courtesy calls to Athit yesterday were Swedish Ambassador Olov Ternstorm and newly-appointed Brazilian Ambassador Polo Lima.

Minister Expresses Reservations on Malaysian Plan

BK1601045891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0448 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Bangkok, Jan 16 (AFP)—Thai Foreign Minister Athit Urairat expressed reservations Wednesday on a Malaysian proposal for establishing an East Asian trading bloc as he left here for talks with leaders in Kuala Lumpur.

"Thailand is not in a position to commit itself now because we have yet to study the implications, advantages and disadvantages of the proposal," Mr. Athit told reporters.

"To form a trading bloc, we must be strong enough ... Moreover, to form such a group, every member country must cooperate," he said, adding that there were conflicting trade interests among countries in the proposed group.

Mr. Athit said that during his 24-hour visit to the Malaysian capital he would also discuss details of Malaysia's agreement to provide Thailand with oil if imports were disrupted by war in the Gulf.

Mr. Athit's visit to Malaysia is his first to a member country of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) since taking office last month.

ASEAN groups the six non-communist countries of Southeast Asia—Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

Indonesia and Brunei have also agreed to supply oil to Thailand if the country's imports from the Middle East were affected.

Editorial Remarks on Malaysian Economic Plan

BK1201124591 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 10 Jan 91 p 3

[Editorial: "Dumping ASEAN"]

[Text] The integration of Europe into a single market, with a common currency, monetary and banking system, and a unified market rule and taxation, is close to fulfillment. Europe will be a single bloc with internal boundaries. Meanwhile, the United States is joining Canada in forming another trading bloc in North America. This might be the reason why Malaysia became panic-stricken.

Ever since Dr. Mahathir Mohamed became leader of Malaysia, he expounded a proposal to dump ASEAN and replace it with a new organization of countries extending from Southeast Asia to the Far East, with the six ASEAN members as the core. The bloc would include China, Japan, Korea, and Taiwan. This is aimed at striking a balance with other trading blocs in Europe and other parts of the world.

Malaysia sent its officials to several countries, including Thailand, to sound out reaction to its proposal. It noted that several countries, including Singapore, welcomed its initiative. This is normal. An initiative which calls for cooperation and mutual assistance within a bloc seeking to build a bargaining power is good and deserves support. But the question is whether the timing is right.

We would like to ask Malaysia the following—are we being too pessimistic? Are we too rash in making up our mind? Are we sure of what we want? With a single European market becoming a reality, trade between the EC and East Asian countries would be subject to tougher protectionism. Since the region has always been the supplier of human and animal feed, garments, as well as all kinds of raw materials to Europe and the West, the rush to form a new group might be interpreted by them as our effort to confront them. In this connection, the six ASEAN members might be the first target for them. Don't forget that the EC has all of Europe behind it.

We would like to ask our Malaysian friend if it is sure that China, Japan, Korea, and Taiwan would agree to go all along with us. Each country has its own targets and objectives, and big countries have never allowed small countries to lead them. In addition to that, there is also a geographical factor—we are too far away. There has been nothing wrong with ASEAN ever since it was founded. On the contrary, it has become an example for other small countries to follow. Therefore, is it reasonable to dump ASEAN?

We assure you that the Malaysian dream will never be dampened. But let us stick to the ASEAN principle while welcoming other members into our bloc in order to consolidate the grouping of the countries in this region and in the Far East. It is never too late if the EC happens to be a threat to us one day. Believe us, we better use the method of evolution.

Chatchai-Military Chiefs' Relationship Viewed

BK1301021891 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 13 Jan 91 p 4

["Weekend Analysis" column by Banyat Thatsaniyawet]

[Text] In the apparent belief that military support is the key to Government stability, Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan is reportedly still trying to smooth relations with the top brass.

The absence of top military commanders at Gen Chatchai's weekly Wednesday breakfast is viewed by many as a boycott.

If the Premier hopes to turn around his relations with the military in the New Year, there are no obvious clues that he is having any success.

Perhaps the most poignant reminder of the Premier's failure in this respect was the absence of the commanders at his home for the traditional New Year's greeting. The top officers instead turned up in force at the homes of former military boss Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut and ex-premier Prem Tinsulanon to deliver New Year's greetings.

It was reported earlier that the Government had appointed the Prime Minister's Secretary-General Wanchai Chitchamnong to ask the top brass to pay the courtesy call on Gen Chatchai on New Year's Day.

The report was denied by Gen Chatchai, who said that, "I asked (the military commanders) not to come. So nobody came."

Despite the setback, the fact that Gen Chatchai was invited to attend a luncheon with senior officers last Monday could be considered a step forward in the Government's effort to normalise relations with the "men in Green."

However, it was reported that the host of the luncheon, Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong, had arrived at the table 10 minutes after the guest of honour.

All was not lost though, as Gen Sunthon has reportedly planned another luncheon for Gen Chatchai as well as the rest of the Cabinet this Tuesday.

Although the Prime Minister has denied having any problem with the military, there are persistent reports that overtures to the military are constantly being floated.

Army Commander-in-Chief Suchinda Khraprayun has said that he has been asked by a go-between to rejoin the weekly breakfasts at the Prime Minister's home.

Gen Suchinda said that if the Prime Minister wants to invite him to breakfast, why does he have to use a third person? Also, as Defence Minister and his boss, Gen Chatchai need only order him to attend, he said.

In a show of loyalty, more than 100 Army commanders delivered New Year's wishes to Gen Suchinda at the Army Golf Course on January 8. The show even had a slogan: "100 remote divisions, but one heart for the boss."

Military sources said the show of unity was necessary to prove the Army's discipline and loyalty to Gen Suchinda.

They said 1991 will be a crucial year because the supreme commander and the navy commander-in-chief will retire.

If Government-military relations continue to be rocky, they said, this could block the smooth transition of power in the two key posts, and the military cannot allow this.

The supreme commander, who is chief of the joint Security Command, must agree on national security matters with the Army chief, who heads the Capital Security Command.

The wrong person in the position could do a lot of damage, the sources said.

If the supreme commander orders the mobilisation of the armed forces to defend the country from what he considers to be a threat, the Army chief must be quick to agree and respond.

While giving the Premier the cold shoulder, Gen Suchinda has repeatedly said the military will support the Government and will not interfere in politics. However, he also said politicians must not interfere in military affairs.

Thailand's history is full of evidence that government-military relations are a complicated and sensitive matter and can cause problems when strained.

When veteran politician M.R. Khukrit Pramot was prime minister and Chat Thai Party elder Praman Adireksan was defence minister, a change was made to the military reshuffle list in which Lt-Gen Chalat Hiransiri, who was Army Training Command Department head, was abruptly appointed deputy army commander-in-chief to pave the way for his promotion to army boss. The incident caused a parliamentary dissolution.

The new prime minister, M.R. Seni Pramot, and defence minister Gen Taich Seniwong moved to defuse the tension caused by the surprise reshuffle by appointing Gen Soem na Nakhon as deputy army chief.

When Gen Prem Tinsulanon was prime minister and defence minister, he also used to override the proposed appointments of Navy and Air Force commanders. He appointed Adm Praphat Kritsanachan as Navy chief instead of Adm Komut Kamonnawin and ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Woranat Aphichari as Air Force head instead of ACM Kaset Rotchananin. ACM Kaset was eventually appointed to the top post after Gen Prem gave up the premiership.

Gen Chatchai, who is also Defence Minister, is one of the few elected politicians who have won military support to take charge of the defence portfolio. Even former Army boss and ex-supreme commander Gen Athit Kamlang-ek ran into strong military opposition when news spread that he might be appointed defence minister to replace Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, who had quit in the last Chatchai government.

The Premier has tried to appease the military by assuring them that he will not interfere in its internal affairs.

But despite that and recent political changes, his weekly breakfasts continue to be ignored.

Chatchai Holds Meeting

BK1501144591 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 15 Jan 91

[Text] After the cabinet meeting, Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan and other cabinet ministers proceeded to the Supreme Command Headquarters at 1300 for a luncheon at the invitation of Supreme Comamnder General Sunthon Khongsomphong. The prime minister and his cabinet members were welcomed by Army Commander General Suchinda Khraprayun, Navy Commander Admiral Praphat Kritsanachan, and other senior officers, except the Air Force commander, who was on an overseas trip. Before the luncheon, there was a briefing on the duties of the Supreme Command Headquarters. A song entitled "Chai Prasan Chai" ["Heart Joins Heart"] was played during the lunch. After the luncheon, which lasted about an hour, the prime minister said that he was happy to have lunch together. He said that the people involved may take turns to host such luncheons every month.

[Begin recording] [Chatchai] I said that we will take turns to host such luncheons every month.

[Unidentified correspondent] Will the weekly breakfast on Wednesday continue?

[Chatchai] I meet with ministry permanent secretaries or other officials on Wednesday. Those who have problems will come to discuss them there.

[Unidentified correspondent] Including the commanders of the Armed Forces?

[Chatchai] It depends on them. If they are free, they are welcome. [end recording]

Military, NSC in Confusion Over Refugee Camp

BK1601023091 Hong Kong AFP in English 1734 GMT 15 Jan 91

[Text] Bangkok, Jan 15 (AFP)—A senior Thai Government official Tuesday dismissed reports that a decision had been taken to close a refugee camp controlled by Khmer Rouge guerrillas on Thailand's border with Cambodia.

But the remark by National Security Council (NSC) Secretary General Suwit Sutthanukun was disputed by an officer in charge of Cambodian refugee affairs at the Supreme Command Headquarters.

The Supreme Command has worked out a plan for closing the O'Trao settlement and the decision is "a strictly military" matter, said the officer, who requested anonymity.

Earlier this month relief officials reported that Thailand had decided to close the camp, which has a population of 15,000 and is located 10 kilometers (six miles) from the border with northern Cambodia.

O'Trao is one three camps along the border run by the Khmer Rouge, Cambodia's former radical Marxist ruling group and now the most powerful force in a guerrilla coalition fighting the Vietnam-installed Cambodian Government.

It is operated with the assistance of the United Nations Border Relief Operation (UNBRO).

Mr. Suwit said no decision had been taken to close O'Trao where tension has been running high, with several grenade attacks taking place over the past few months. Two Thai soldiers were slightly wounded in one of the attacks in November, but there were no reports of casualties in the other incidents.

Mr. Suwit added: "Some military officials may have been thinking along those lines, but it would be for the government to reach such a decision after a recommendation from the NSC," Thailand's top intelligence security agency.

The officer at the Supreme Command admitted that the military would "have to talk a little with the NSC" about closing O'Trao.

But, he continued, "the plan (to close the camp) is a strictly military plan following direct instructions from the government."

"It has already been approved by top commanders," the officer said, adding that O'Trao would be closed "within three months or, maybe, a little bit later to allow for preparations for the relocation of refugees."

There are some 310,000 Cambodian refugees in UNBRO-assisted camps in Thailand controlled by the anti-Phnom Penh guerrillas—the Beijing-backed Khmer Rouge and two smaller non-communist factions aided by the United States.

The incidents at O'Trao are believed by relief officials to have resulted from irritation by the Khmer Rouge area commander, Ta Mok, with moves by United Nations personnel, particularly a headcount of inmates and a subsequent survey of their intentions in the event of repatriation to Cambodia in the event of a settlement of the 12-year-old war there.

Vietnamese, Lao Refugees Return Home

BK1201020291 Bangkok THE NATION in English 12 Jan 91 p A4

[Text] One hundred and twenty-two Vietnamese boat people left for home yesterday under the voluntary repatriation arranged by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

The UNHCR office in Bangkok said the returnees would bring to 344 the number of Vietnamese repatriated under the auspices of the organization.

At present, there are more than 10,000 Vietnamese asylum-seekers in refugee camps in Thailand who are awaiting screening to determine whether they would be given refygee status.

—The Interior Ministry, in cooperation with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, has sent home more than 3,000 Laotian asylum-seekers under the UN voluntary repatriation during the past two years.

Deputy Permanent Secretary for Interior Chamnan Photchana said yesterday 3,456 Laotians, most of them from lowland Laos, had returned home between 1989 and last year.

Another group of 824 hilltribe Laotians were also repatriated during November-December last year, Chamnan said.

Thailand and Laos reached an agreement in 1988 to send Laotian asylum-seekers back to their homeland at the rate of at least 150 persons a month, he said.

Vietnam

Six Diplomats, 2,000 Workers Remain in Iraq

BK1501152891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1232 GMT 15 Jan 91

[Text] Hanoi, Jan 15 (AFP)—Vietnam said Tuesday it has no immediate plans to withdraw its six diplomats still in Iraq, where more than 2,000 Vietnamese workers are awaiting repatriation hours before a UN deadline for Baghdad to pull out of Kuwait.

Hanoi and Baghdad have enjoyed good relations in the past and under bilateral agreements some 16,000 Vietnamese had been working in Iraq, mainly on construction projects in the north of the country.

Flights have been repatriating the Vietnamese since late October but a Foreign Ministry official said Tuesday that there were still more than 2,000 workers in Iraq and six diplomats at Hanoi's embassy in Baghdad.

He said there were no plans to bring the diplomats back home before the 0500 GMT Wednesday deadline for Iraq to withdraw its armed forces from the Gulf or face war with a U.S.-led multinational force.

But the government continued to make arrangements with international organisations for the repatriation of the workers.

The official said that Vietnamese Ambassador Pham Quoc Bao was among the six envoys still in Iraq.

"We are closely following the situation and we hope that the Gulf crisis can be solved by peaceful means," he said.

The United Nations has told Iraq to end its military occupation of Kuwait by the end of January 15 or face military force to oust its forces from the small oil-rich state, which Baghdad claims as its 19th province.

Meanwhile, two Vietnamese organisations have called for urgent steps to be taken to prevent war erupting in the Gulf between Iraq and a U.S.-spearheaded multinational force, the press reported here Tuesday.

"The Persian Gulf crisis must be solved, not by means of war but by peace," the Vietnam Peace Committee and the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity with the Afro-Asian People said in a recent joint statement, the newspapers said.

They called on all governments, national and international organisations, parties and world public opinion to make greater efforts and take further steps to avert a catastrophe in the Gulf.

Government Returns Remains of 11 U.S. Servicemen

BK1601152291 Hanoi VNA in English 1457 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 16—The remains of 11 American servicemen killed during the Vietnam war were handed over here today to a representative of the U.S. Joint Casualty Resolution Centre by the Vietnamese authorities.

Those remains were recovered during the 12th joint search conducted by Vietnamese and U.S. specialists on MIA issue from Nov. 28 to Dec. 19, 1990. Since March 1974, Vietnam returned 445 sets of such remains to the U.S. side in 33 times.

Le Quang Dao Visits SRV-USSR Oil, Gas Firm

BK1601122391 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 15 Jan 91

[Text] Recently, Le Quang Dao, chairman of the National Assembly, visited the Vietnam-USSR Joint Venture Oil and Gas Company with Comrade Nguyen Hoa, acting chairman of the Economic, Planning, and Budget Committee of the National Assembly.

The company's management cadres and workers warmly welcomed the chairman of the National Assembly and the delegation.

Comrade Le Quang Dao visited the oil exploiting rig No. 7, which was a modern rig in Bach Ho well and it was the first rig totally operated by Vietnamese cadres and workers under the management of Comrade Ha Ngoc Khue.

At present, 80 cadres and workers working for the company are Vietnamese. They now have good knowledge and skills because they made great efforts to improve themselves.

The chairman hailed the energetic and creative working attitude, the striving to overcome difficulties, and the united, cooperative, and friendly attitude of the Vietnamese and USSR specialists. He also hailed the help with all heart from USSR comrades to the Vietnamese workers and the positive attitude and the quick progress in learning of the Vietnamese cadres and workers.

On behalf of the National Assembly and the Vietnamese people, Comrade Le Quang Dao offered thanks for the great and effective help of the USSR party, state, and people and wished that the cooperation between Vietnam and USSR would develop more.

Joint USSR Firm Produces 2.7 Million Tons Oil

BK0901171691 Hanoi VNA in English 1510 GMT 9 Jan 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 9—Last year, the Vietnam-USSR Petroleum Joint Enterprise (VIETSOVPETRO) pumped up 2.7 million tons of crude oil, 1.2 million tons more than the previous years.

The enterprise has nine wells under exploitation, thus bringing its daily yield to 9,000 tons from 3,000 tons.

This year, VIETSOVPETRO plans to tap 3.5 million tons of crude oil.

Embassy in USSR Discusses Workers' Situation

BK1501152391 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 15 Jan 91

[Text] According to a VNA correspondent in the Soviet Union, the Vietnamese Embassy recently held a conference to review its management of Vietnamese workers in the Soviet Union during 1990. Those participating in the conference pointed out that during 1990, the situation in the Soviet Union underwent eventful changes, creating a strong impact on the material and spiritual life of Vietnamese workers in the Soviet Union. Since the beginning of 1990, prices have soared high and there has been a scarcity of commodities and foodstuffs, whereas wages remain unchanged, resulting in a sharp decline in the actual income of Vietnamese workers.

Many local enterprises have been unable to ensure employment for workers. They have also failed to ensure security for Vietnamese cadres and workers and guarantee their right to send their postal parcels home, thus making it impossible for many of them to continue to work without feeling anxious. On the other hand, many of our labor units have also failed to maintain their discipline while at work and in every-day activities, because there have emerged many negative phenomena.

The conference held that pending a new labor agreement between the two countries, in 1991 we should strengthen our personnel organization activities, consolidate our labor discipline, and guarantee the interests of our workers and government. In particular, if our friends' enterprises or establishments are to shift to a market mechanism, we should transfer Vietnamese workers to do other jobs or send them home before their contracts expire.

General Vo Nguyen Giap's India Visit Detailed

BK1601080091 Hanoi VNA in English 0706 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 16—Gen. Vo Nguyen Giap, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, arrived in Calcutta in India's West Bengal State on Jan. 11 for an official visit to India, and for an international seminar and other activites in honour of president Ho Chi Minh's birth centenary.

Gen. Vo Nguyen Giap and his wife were warmly welcomed by Jyoti Basu, Chief Minister of West Bengal, Deputy Minister for External Affairs L.L. Mehrotra, many ministers of West Bengal State and representatives of mass organizations. Speaking at the welcome ceremony, Chief Minister Jyoti Basu praised the visit and spoke highly of the late President Ho Chi Minh as a close and great friend of the Indian people, and a symbol of peace and friendship among nations.

For his part, Gen. Vo Nguyen Giap expressed his joy at visiting Calcutta and India. He conveyed the friendly sentiments of the Vietnamese people and government to the Indian leaders and people. He expressed thanks to the government and people of India in general and West Bengal in particular, for their valuable support for and assistance to Vietnam's national construction and defence, and for their diversified activities in celebration of President Ho Chi Minh's birth centenary.

On Jan. 12-13, Gen. Vo Nguyen Giap had talks with Chief Minister Jyoti Basu and other senior officials of West Bengal.

The internationl seminar entitled "Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam and World Peace" was opened on Jan. 14.

Party Draft Platform Meeting Held in Lam Dong

BK1501084991 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] The Vietnam Fatherland Front Committee of Lam Dong Province held a meeting for intellectuals, businessmen, and religious followers to contribute to the Draft Platform on Socialist Construction for the Transitional Period and the Draft Strategy of Socioeconomic Stabilization and Development up to the Year 2000.

The participants contributed several practical views and they confirmed the necessity of constructing new party platforms in the new situation.

Most participants expressed that the party platforms must have the value of long term direction, they must gather the strength of all forces from the people, and they need to be invested with more intelligence and energy.

About the strategy, many participants expressed that in order to stimulate all economic elements to produce more goods for society, the state should have tax policies suitable to labor, and production conditions of every sector and every locality. The state should be impartial in investment, business, and production.

Several participants suggested that the party should have appropriate investment in the people, perfect the cadres' standardization, multiply training forms, and use the people's skills up to their requirement and ability.

State Council Confers Order on Overseas Nationals

BK1301033591 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 12 Jan 91

[Text] The Vietnamese State Council has decided to confer war resistance order and medal on overseas Vietnamese who have rendered meritorious services to national construction and defense.

On Friday, 11 January, a ceremony was held at the headquarters of the Hanoi People's Committee to present War Resistance Order, First Class, to 18 overseas Vietnamese.

Hanoi Reports First AIDS Case in Country

BK1401150091 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 14 Jan 91

[Text] The first case of HIV infection in Vietnam was announced at the press conference in Hanoi on Monday, 14 January. A report by the National AIDS Committee said: The reference of the Laboratory of the National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology has confirmed the positive HIV test on a young woman living in Ho Chi Minh City.

The committee held that AIDS has become a real cause of concern in Vietnam and meted out five measures to stop the spread of this deadly disease, giving priority to popularizing knowledge about AIDS.

Australia

Protest Lodged Against PNG Helicopter Use

BK1601070691 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Australia has protested to Papua New Guinea [PNG] about the use of Australian supplied helicopters as gunships. Australia's high commissioner in Port Moresby says it is seriously concerned about reported use of a helicopter with a fixed machine-gun for offensive operations in Bougainville. The helicopter was reportedly used in an offensive capacity against insurrectionists on Bougainville during last year's uprising.

The high commissioner pointed out this was inconsistent with the agreement governing the supply of the Australian helicopters. The Foreign Affairs Department in Canberra is awaiting a response from Port Moresby.

Opposition Spokesman on 'Strained' Indian Ties

BK1601075691 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Australia's opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, Senator Robert Hill, says relations between India and Australia remain strained by Canberra's sale of Mirage fighter jets to Pakistan. During a visit to New Dehli, Senator Hill said last year's sale of 50 secondhand planes to Pakistan at a time of heightened tensions with India had been appalling politics.

He says the damaged caused by the sale is long-term and it has affected Indian perceptions of Australia.

Fiji

Indian Groups Threaten To Defy Rally Ban

BK1601100491 Hong Kong AFP in English 0940 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Suva, Jan 16 (AFP)—Fiji's Indian-led opposition parties said Wednesday they will defy a ban on public meetings and rallies which the government says it has imposed as emergency security measures to deal with the Gulf crisis.

National Federation Party President Dr. Balwant Singh Rakka said the ban was really intended to "upset our plans to hold a major rally to inform the people of political, social, military and economic developments in Fiji."

He added: "We wish to make it clear that if the regime does not withdraw this order we will be forced to defy it and hold the rally as planned."

The opposition also accused the government of capitalising on the Gulf crisis by imposing restrictions on Fiji's population, which includes more than 50,000 Moslems.

Meantime, the government issued a fresh appeal Wednesday for cooperation from leaders of the National Federation Party-Fiji Labour Party coalition opposition.

"Government is at a loss to understand the inconsiderate stand taken by the coalition party as regards to government's efforts to prepare the nation in view of the deteriorating situation in the Middle East," the statement said.

Relations With New Zealand Improve With Visit

BK1401111891 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0803 GMT 14 Jan 91

[Text] Relations between New Zealand and Fiji are improving after two senior New Zealand Government ministers met Fiji's prime minister, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, and his Cabinet in Suva today. Foreign Minister Don McKinnon and Defense Minister Warren Cooper were the first New Zealand ministers to visit Fiji since the May 1987 military coup. Our New Zealand correspondent Brendon Byrnes, who is traveling with the ministers, filed this report from Suva.

[Begin recording] [Byrnes] Since the New Zealand elections in October last year, there has been a noticeable effort by the new National Government to restore relations with Fiji. Mr. McKinnon, who is deputy prime minister as well as foreign minister, had met Ratu Mara and two other Fiji ministers last December when they passed through Auckland. Today Mr. McKinnon and Mr. Cooper spent 30 minutes in private session with Ratu Mara before he introduced them to his Cabinet, and a further 40-minute meeting took place.

Mr. McKinnon says there was some straight talking on issues, including human rights in Fiji since the May 1987 military coup, and on the new Constitution, whose critics include Australia's foreign minister, Senator Gareth Evans, who says that it enhances racial discrimination. But Mr. McKinnon says while views were exchanged with Ratu Mara and his Cabinet, he had not come to lecture Fijians.

[McKinnon] I want to establish good relations with this government, it is going to take time because we have been separated for a few years. I want to be in a position when I can ring any one of these Cabinet ministers up and have a talk about a number of subjects. [Words indistinct] you come up here start kicking people around. We did not come to be Rambo, we did not come to be [words indistinct].

[Byrnes] Mr. McKinnon and his Australian counterpart, Senator Evans, did meet last year in Wellington. And the two men discussed the prospects of a bipartisan Australian-New Zealand approach to Fiji. Today, Mr. McKinnon was asked if New Zealand had now moved ahead of Australia in reestablishing relations with Fiji.

[McKinnon] If (?there) is a lead, I would not put it that much further ahead of where Australia is. We are both moving on some partly different tracks, but I would not suggest that New Zealand is so far out in front. It would become [words indistinct] Australia.

[Byrnes] For more than a year New Zealand has been attempting to convince the Fiji interim government to accept resumption of maritime surveillance flights by the Royal New Zealand Air Force. But the Fijians have always tied the resumption of the surveillance flights to New Zealand restoring the military aid it provided to Fiji prior to the May 1987 coup. But McKinnon says the Fijian Cabinet today agreed to consider resuming the flights this year prior to the scheduled election at the year's end. Once those elections take place, Mr. McKinnon is indicating that New Zealand will resume the military links with Fiji, including the training of Fijian soldiers.

[McKinnon] [Words indistinct] country, and then we are prepared to talk about the military assistance program.

[Byrnes] There was no immediate comment following today's meeting from Ratu Mara or any of his Cabinet ministers. Mr. McKinnon and Mr. Cooper tomorrow meet Fiji's president, Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, and later Mrs. Kuini Bavadra, leader of the coalition parties which formed Fiji's last democratically elected government.

The New Zealand ministers leave Fiji on Wednesday [16 January] for Niue and the Cook Islands as part of a five-nation swing through the South Pacific. [end recording]